

At Home With Bill Walton

BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

Volume 2, Issue 19
October 19, 1987



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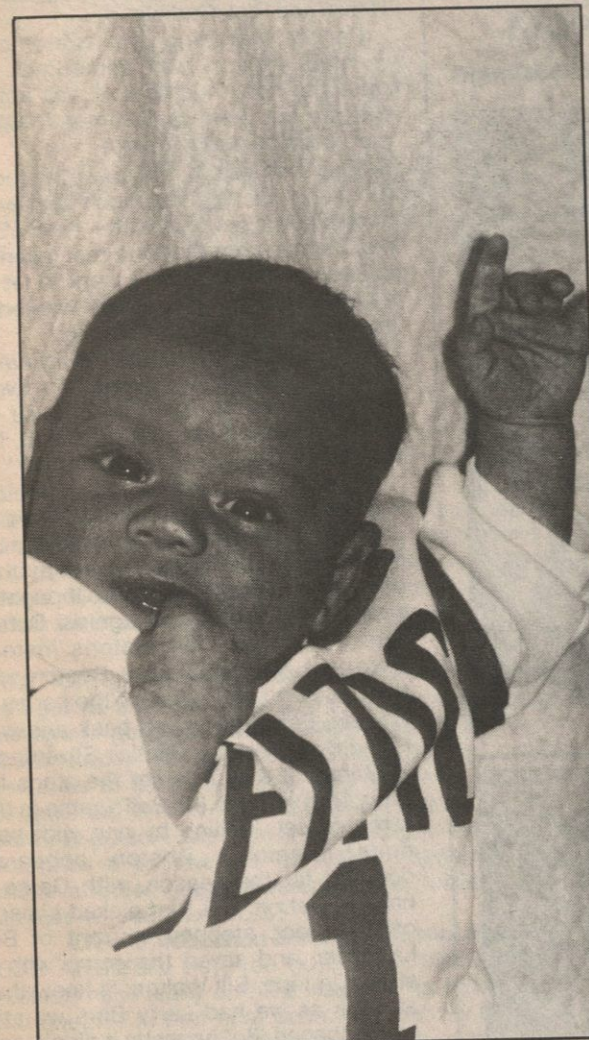
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"We're Number One"



Ernest Glenn Wong



Jenny Ross

Boston Celtics fans come in all sizes and all ages, as is clearly demonstrated by the photos above. On the left is Ernest Glenn Wong, who was born on April 2, 1987; at 7 pounds, 14 ounces and 21 inches tall, Ernest appears to be a prospect at the small forward position. He is the son of Paula and Glenn Wong; Glenn, a

longtime friend of the Celtics front office, is the Chairman of the Sports Administration Department at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

On the right is Jenny Ross, grandmother of Celtics accountant Joe Durkin. Jenny is sporting her new Celtics sweatshirt, a gift on the recent occasion of her 75th birthday.

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 19
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Cover . . .

Danny Ainge and Dennis Johnson are just two of the Celtics who set sail with some happy fans on the Annual Cruise to Bermuda. Come and join the Celtics family this issue during a well deserved vacation. Cover photography by Jan Volk.

Features . . .

4 . . . Video Highlights Luncheon

Many Celtics turned out for the tip off of the 86-87 Celtics Video Highlights tape. Produced by CBS Fox, the tape has been very highly acclaimed by all.

7 . . . Kevin McHale and Scott Wedman Injury Updates

Two players integral to the success of the Celtics in the 87-88 season are reported to be improving daily with expected returns by both relatively soon.

8 . . . Celtics Conquer Bermuda

Like a calm before the storm, many Celtics past and present took part in a tranquil cruise to Bermuda. Here's a story full of fun, rest and relaxation before the NBA wars begin.

10 . . . At Home with Bill Walton

Writer Bob Schron recently visited with Bill and his family and reports that through this latest ordeal, Bill has remained strongly optimistic. Chronicled here is Bill's summer of hope and effort.

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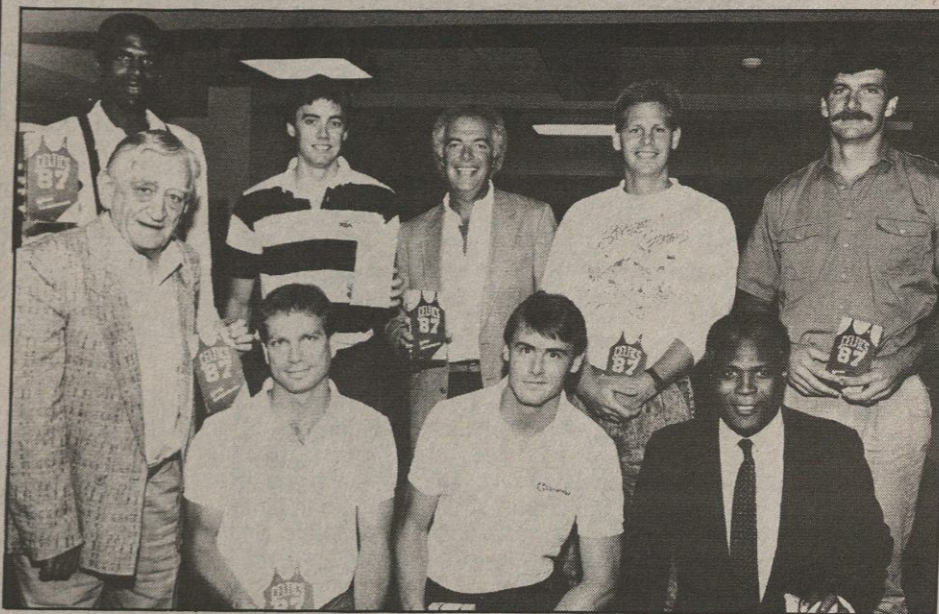
The Boston Celtics organization hosted a presentation of the video, "Home of the Brave", a comprehensive look at the Celtics' heroic 1986-87 season. On hand for the showing of the video, produced by NBA Entertainment with CBS/FOX V-S were several Celtics players and Coach K.C. Jones and Director of Player Personnel, Jimmy Rodgers.

The video was narrated in classic deep monotone and the pictures reflected the Celtics unforgettable season. Boston started out a tumultuous post-season by sweeping the Chicago Bulls and Michael Jordan in the opening round. But in that set, Kevin McHale suffered a pair of injuries (back and foot). A long and difficult road ensued for the Celtics throughout the remainder of the year.

McHale was interviewed on the tape: "I've made a commitment to my team to continue playing. I know there's a risk involved playing on the foot. But it's one of the hard decisions you make in this business." A pair of gruelling performances were portrayed in the following series against Milwaukee. In Game 3, the teams went into overtime before the Celtics were defeated by the home-standing Bucks, the latter's first win in

Home of the Brave

Celtics Video Presented to Local Media



Celtics of '87 Look Forward to '88

Celtics at the video presentation. Also on hand were Greg Kite, Danny Ainge, Dennis Johnson, Jerry Sichting, Conner Henry and Rick Carlisle.

Parish, watching the video, commented after, "I was sometimes surprised at how much pain I was able to tolerate out there. Sometimes the pressure became pretty intense."

"But then you look around the locker room and you see how much pain everybody else was coping with—Kevin, Dennis, Danny—and there's a real incentive to keep going. You don't want to let up. Especially since everybody wanted to repeat championships so badly."

"The challenge was this" said Ainge. "Nobody thought we could win. Everybody seemed to think that since we were so banged up, that we'd quit. But that only made us more determined."

Indeed, the Celtics weathered a furious Bucks stampede in the seventh game and nevertheless retaliated in the game's final six minutes to win that series. When most observers thought a similarly exhausting set against Detroit was impossible, the Pistons instead were just as tough. After Boston won the opening two games of the series in Boston, Detroit snapped back and walloped Boston in the Pontiac Silverdome in Games 3 & 4. This set the stage for Larry Bird's "Stole the Ball" game in the fifth contest. Trailing by one with seconds remaining Boston appeared doomed for the season, with Game 6 back in Detroit. But Bird picked himself off the floor, stepped in front of Bill Laimbeer, and saved the game with a steal. On tape, Bill Walton: "I knew that as long as we had Larry Bird, we still had a chance. But honestly it didn't look good. But he made a championship play."

On tape, the bench is portrayed in the moment leading up to the Bird steal. Bird had just had his shot blocked, and the Pistons had possession, ahead 107-106. Walton, Kite, Darren Daye and Sam Vincent are shown frantic as the title appeared lost. Then Bird's steal, and total pandemonium.

K.C. Jones commented, "The thing about the season is that the guys showed complete character this year. There was nothing more they could do given the injuries, given the insurmountable odds."

"I think that they could have a fulfilling summer this year. They couldn't do anything more."

Carlisle commented earlier, "I wasn't sure we could get by Detroit. But I thought the season was a fantastic one, given the shape we were in at the finish."

The complete video includes liberal use of musical effects, interviews, and flashback footage which will be particularly enjoyable to long-time Celtics fans. For example the sterling final minute of play of Darren Daye in Game 4 of the Bucks series is shown, interwoven with scenes from the Celtics-Phoenix Suns triple overtime classic in 1976. Daye came in late in the double overtime and his fresh legs at that point proved to be the critical difference. In the flashback, the game was decided by similar means, as seldom used Glenn McDonald came in late in the game and simply outran the rest of the fatigued players as the Celtics defeated Phoenix in that 3-OT thriller.



Dennis Johnson: Great Plays on Tape.

the playoff round. At that moment, with Bill Walton now out too, the Bucks reached a maximum level of confidence against Boston and ran freely against the injured veteran club. In Game 4, Larry Bird was carefully analyzed on tape as he scored 42 points in the Celtics double overtime victory. In slow motion, he's viewed in closeup, swinging a triumphant fist as he scored a critical three-pointer late in the contest.

The following game, when the Bucks defeated the Celtics in Boston, Robert Parish nearly clinched the series by himself, spearheading a determined Celtics surge late in the contest (30 points, 16 rebounds). But as the drums rolled in the video, and foreboding music blared, Parish too went down, with a severely sprained ankle. He was out for Game 6 when the Bucks won back in Milwaukee and was hampered throughout the remainder of the playoffs against Detroit and Los Angeles. Parish was one of the

Ask Red Auerbach



EDITORS NOTE: "Ask Red Auerbach" is a regular feature of Celtics Pride. If you have a question for Red, please send it to Celtics Pride, 49 Locust Avenue, New Canaan, Connecticut 06840. Red will answer as many as possible in each issue.

QUESTION: In the final game of the 1983-84 title series against the Lakers, M.L. Carr entered the game wearing eye goggles. The explanation given by the TV commentators was that during Game 6 in L.A. a fan threw beer in M.L.'s face, causing injury to his eyes. Our question is this—did M.L. wear the goggles in Game 7 to prevent this from re-occurring or was this intended as a psyche job on Laker Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, another goggle-wearer? If the latter, whose idea was it—yours or M.L.'s?

CHARLIE TREBUCHON AND LARRY DOSTER, IRMO, S.C.
RED'S ANSWER: Boy, you guys think that I'm a lot sneakier than I really am. The decision for M.L. Carr to wear goggles in that final game was strictly his own, based on his and the doctor's evaluation of the injury he suffered immediately after the 6th game in Los Angeles. Walking off the court after that game—which we had lost—M.L. was hit directly in the eye by not just some beer, but by a large plastic cup filled with napkins, cigarette butts, bits of food, all of it soaked in beer, which was thrown by a fan about ten feet above the runway we had to take to our locker room. The incident was clearly visible on the CBS broadcast as the cameras followed us off the court. M.L. was in great pain for some hours after the incident, and he was still feeling some discomfort two days later when the teams met in Boston for the final game, so he chose to protect his eyes with the goggles. Still, we all know what a showman and psyche artist M.L. was, so I imagine that his purpose in wearing the goggles was not entirely preventative.

QUESTION: You place such a great emphasis on teamwork and Celtics pride. Does it bother you that there's a players' union?

DENNY STERNBERG, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
RED'S ANSWER: It did bother me at first, sure. I think they've done some good things for the players, no question about that. But they don't concern themselves with ownership. They want this, they want that, and you realize that if you give them all of it, you'll lose money. But they don't care. They don't want to know about your problems. They're interested in feathering their own nests. They figure, what's the difference? So the owner sells out. There's always someone with the ego out there who'll buy another franchise, mainly because of this ego factor and the idea of national recognition. Well, eventually that could stop too. A lot of these super-wealthy people who indulge themselves in sports believe that they have enough money that they can afford to lose, say, five million dollars a year. Then as soon as they lose the money, they want to get out. Who can blame them? It's not really the money. It's the fact that they spent the money, they lost the money, and they still couldn't win games. There's got to be a happy medium. There's got to be a meeting point where the

players realize that if they get everything they want, the owners can't stay in business. Owners and players need to get together to find a way to satisfy both the rights of the players to be more financially involved in the game they play and the rights of the owners to protect their investments.

QUESTION: Clear this up once and for all. Are the Celtics-Sixers showdowns the biggest rivalry in professional sports? If you were to watch the ratings they would say so. What's your reaction?

CHUCK GARVEY, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
RED'S ANSWER: Actually, Chuck, the ratings won't confirm what you would apparently like them to. As a matter of fact, the television ratings for the past three years of NBA Finals have reached all-time highs, suggesting that Lakers-Celtics has a greater national appeal than any previous matchup. Still, you've got something in your contention that there is, and has always been, something special about the Celtics-Sixers rivalry. From Russell-Chamberlain all the way through Bird-Erving, some of the classic team and individual confrontations in professional basketball have come between those two teams. On the other hand, every sport has its classic matchups, and there may be no grounds to claim that one has more impact than another.

QUESTION: Do you think that Michael Jordan could break Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's all-time scoring record if he played for about 15 years? I have also heard that

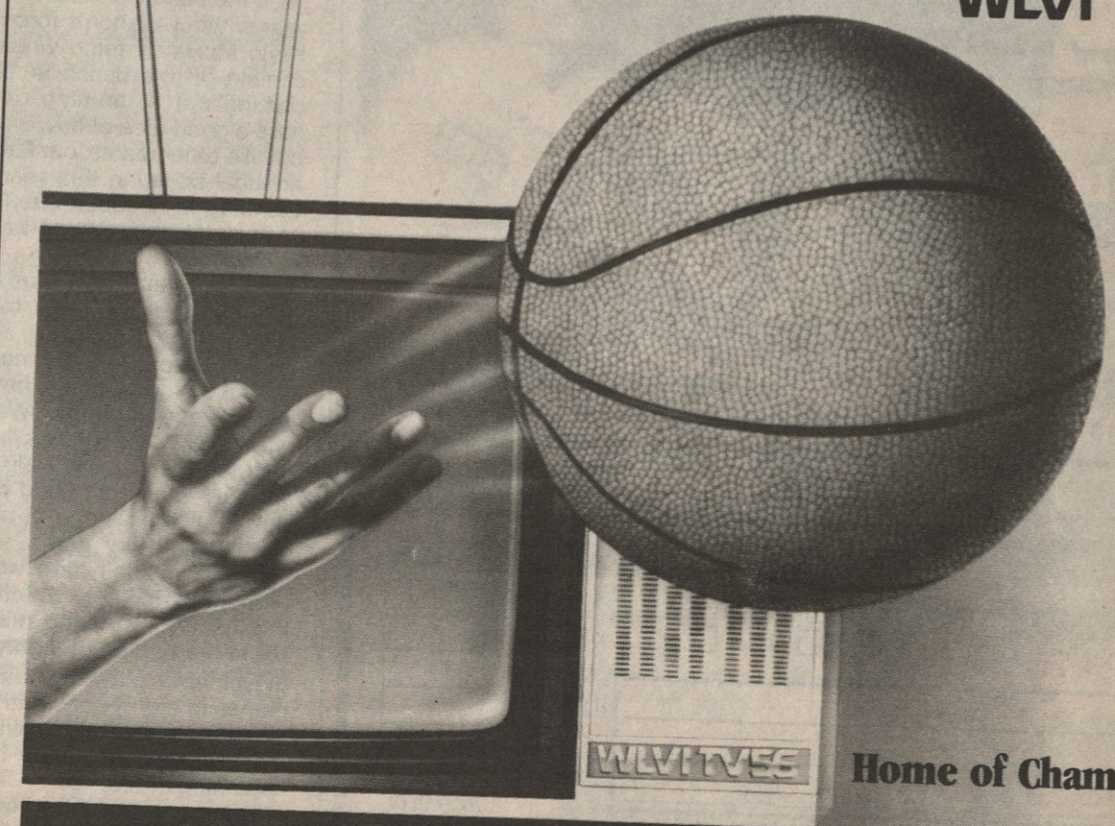
Jordan wants to retire early and become a professional golfer.

MATTHEW THOMPSON, ST. ALBANS, WEST VA.
RED'S ANSWER: That "if" you've mentioned—if Michael Jordan played for another 15 years—is huge. Don't forget for a minute that the most incredible thing about Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's great career has been his longevity, his ability to play at a high level, and to avoid injury, up to his present age. Michael Jordan is a great, great player, potentially capable of maintaining a very high scoring average throughout a great career, but there is no reason to believe that he will either want to, or be able to, play up to the age that Kareem has been able to play. Kareem has been a very special player, playing at a position—center—where players have traditionally been able to function for a longer time than those at other positions. Jordan, great as he is, has already, in his three short years in the league, missed more than half a season with an injury. I sincerely doubt that any player in our league will ever be able to play as well for as long as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

QUESTION: Did K.C. Jones serve military duty before or during his playing career with the Celtics?

WILL BARNES, SANDWICH, MASS.
RED'S ANSWER: K.C. served two years in the military before he ever played a game with the Celtics. We drafted K.C. in 1956, along with a college teammate of his named Bill Russell and another pretty fair player by the name of Tom Heinsohn.

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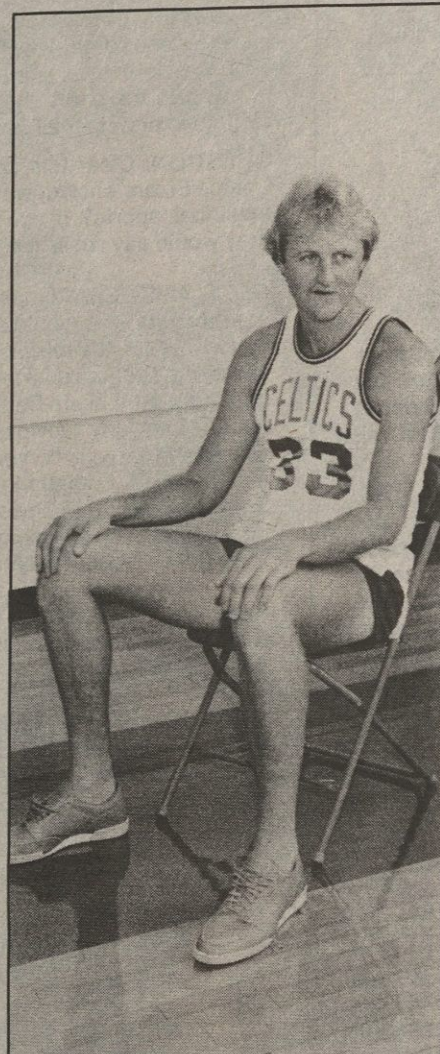
K.C.s Corner

New Strategies

The moratorium on negotiating and signing rookies and free agents has placed a different strategy upon us as we approach the start of training camp on October 9th.

In a normal season, we would have already seen our first round draft choice at Red Auerbach's summer camp which we hold each year in August. In the past ten years, rookies such as Larry Bird, Greg Kite and Sam Vincent have come in and made an impact on future championships, especially Bird.

This season, we are hoping that a negotiated settlement happens quickly. We have some work to do early this year. It appears Kevin McHale will miss the opening of the season and we have to devise a gameplan to compensate somehow for his impact. From scouting reports, we think both of our top draft choices, Reggie Lewis and Brad Lohaus, will contribute to a productive training camp. Last year of course we played the major sector of our schedule without Bill Walton and we'll have to go that route again. Bill had major surgery on his right foot last June immediately after the Finals. I have a great deal of respect for Bill—he's been through a lot in his career. As a friend, I can only wish totally for his recovery. As the Celtics



Larry Bird: Can't Wait

coach, I have to rearrange things to rebuild the bench. It wasn't the same last year without Walton's force of 1986 (or Kevin McHale's force when Kevin was coming off the bench in 1984). Ideally, coming out of training camp we will have a good idea of how we will line up; but like other teams, our ballclub isn't in an ideal situation this year because of the snag in negotiations. The question of Scott Wedman is one we would need to have more information.

When writers and fans would compare our bench of 1987 to the reserve power of our title year of 1986, they would allude to the absence of Bill Walton but too many times they would overlook the contribution of Wedman. Kevin missed eighteen games in 1986. Wedman replaced him to help ignite a crucial 15-3 segment of that year, shooting .482 from the field with an average of eleven shots per game. Without Wedman we wouldn't have won the championship. Further, which is the real Scotty? The one who missed virtually the entire season of eighty-seven or the player who played a career high 79 games in eighty-six? This is something we need to know and it is something we are uncertain of as we head into the beginning of 1987-88.

The loss of Kevin McHale at the start of the season has to be approached in

two separate and related courses of action. How do we construct a program to accomplish short-term goals this season? How do we help restore Kevin back to his maximum level of effectiveness for the remainder of his career? I am intending to hold a rookie camp before the veterans report (Assuming of course some type of negotiated settlement is reached that would allow these players to show). From this, we may have a solution to the problem of that short-term goal. Perhaps Reggie Lewis can contribute some time at small forward (We think Darren Daye and Fred Roberts, two important holdovers, will do that now). Perhaps Lohaus is advanced enough to play some minutes, so we'll have another look to throw at teams from the beginning.

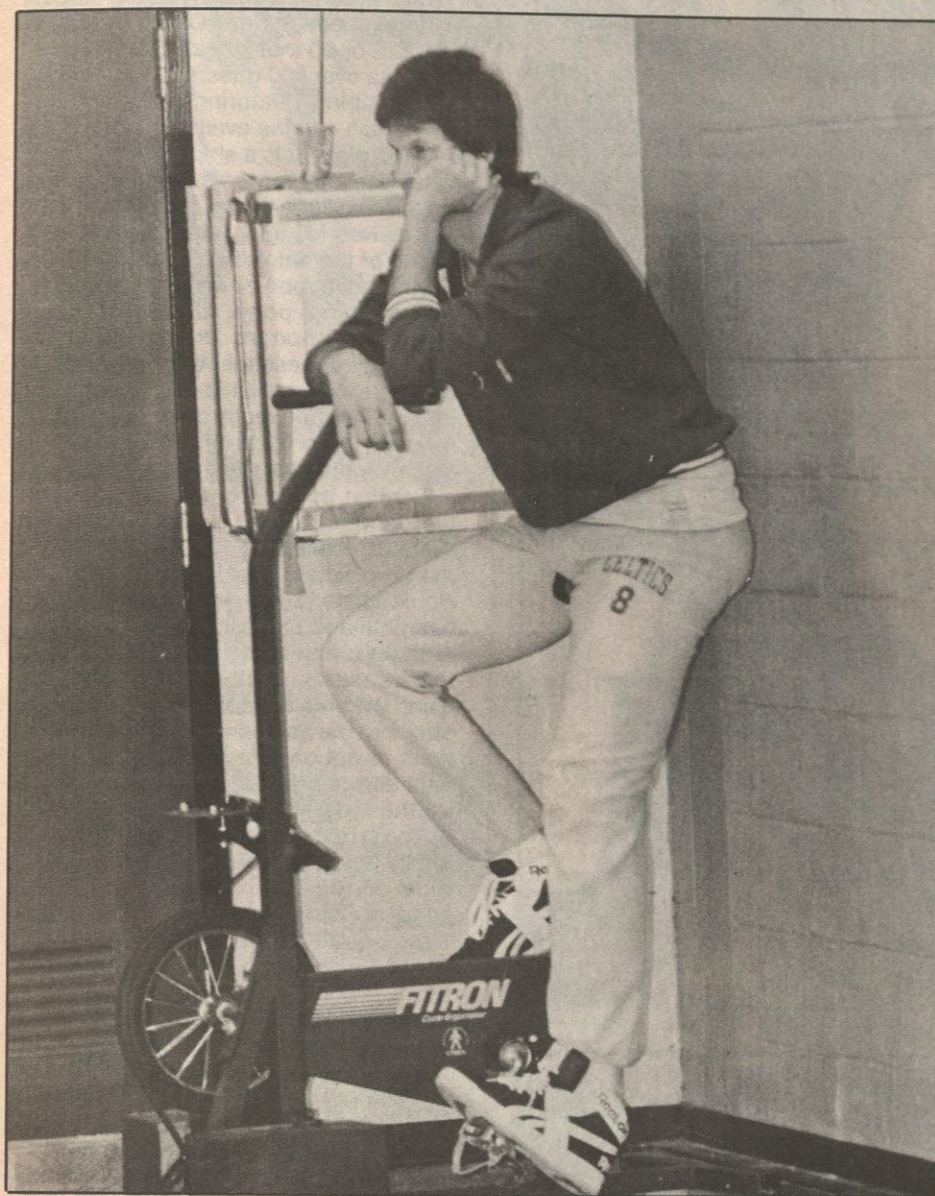
The long-term situation with Kevin is something we have to believe and hope will work out perfectly. I spoke with Kevin late in the summer and he told me he feels great. We have no intentions whatsoever of rushing one of the prized players in the league back into action before his time. Kevin paid some remarkable dues last year and he was a major reason we went as far as we did. We have every intention of winning it all again. But we also have plans to be a major force in the league for the next ten years and Kevin McHale figures in these formulations. It's extremely difficult to stay with a careful, calculated rehabilitation schedule when the pressure of media and fans demands you return to the lineup. It's difficult to know when you are ready in this context. I must discount all of these expectations. We won't rush Kevin.

How will we look when the season opens? I have good reports from Larry that his own workout regimen was highly successful, that he's stronger and more enthusiastic about getting back to action this season. That's particularly pleasing to me. When Scotty was so effective in '86, it was Larry lighting it up as a power forward. If Kevin was the premier player at that spot last year, Larry sustained the quality play there for us when he played opposite Scotty in 1986, during McHale's injury-enforced absence. Larry could operate out of that spot this season a majority of the time. This would allow us to utilize Darren, Fred Roberts and perhaps Reggie Lewis with Larry, giving us defense, speed and firepower from the small forward position.

We have every reason to believe that Robert Parish and Greg Kite will man the center capably and that our guards, Dennis Johnson, Danny Ainge, Jerry Sichting, and Vincent will continue to rank us with the best teams in the league. Our General Manager, Jan Volk, when questioned about the possibility of us making a move, has persistently answered that we don't feel pressured to do anything right now, and we don't, because we believe we have some solid options, all originating in the context of an experienced unit who have played together now for eight years. Yes, I would have preferred seeing our rookies and, also, having a better idea about our options with free agents. But we look for the positives since the version of the summer camp gave us another thorough look at Vincent, Roberts, Rick Carlisle and Conner Henry. We'll be in the hunt this year.

Great Scott!

Wedman Return to the Celtics Certain



Scott Wedman: Back on Track.

The apparent return to the Celtics of Scott Wedman, sidelined all of last season appeared virtually certain in early September *Celtics Pride* learned last week.

"I'm totally pleased with the way my foot feels," said the veteran. "I've been running four miles every other day and playing basketball the days I haven't been running. Next week I'll begin playing five-on-five basketball. I can't believe how good it feels."

After playing in seventy-nine games and helping the Celtics win the 1986 championship, Wedman missed the entire season last year, except for six games. He had surgery immediately after the '86 championship series and his foot never responded to the rehabilitation program.

Wedman's effectiveness was delineated in an eighteen game stretch when Kevin McHale was injured in 1986. The Celtics finished 15-3 in that stretch with Wedman starting sixteen of those contests. Larry Bird played power forward during that time.

"The point to remember is that anytime you have a player of Larry's caliber," commented Wedman, "You have to

find a way to take the pressure off of him. You don't replace a player like Kevin; his inside game is incomparable, it's unique. What I try to do is shoot the ball well from outside and pose a threat on the other side from Larry. It keeps teams honest. One way or the other."

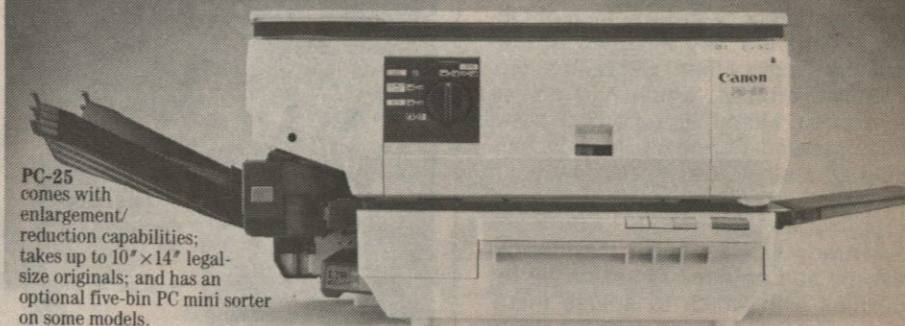
Wedman would be beginning his fifth season with the Celtics. He was named to the league All-Rookie team, has made the Western Conference All-Star team, and led the Kansas City-Omaha Kings to the finals of the Western Conference playoffs in 1981. He came to the Celtics from the Cleveland Cavs in 1983.

"It just makes me feel really good to be out there again, doing something you've loved doing all your life. It makes you appreciate your ability all the more."

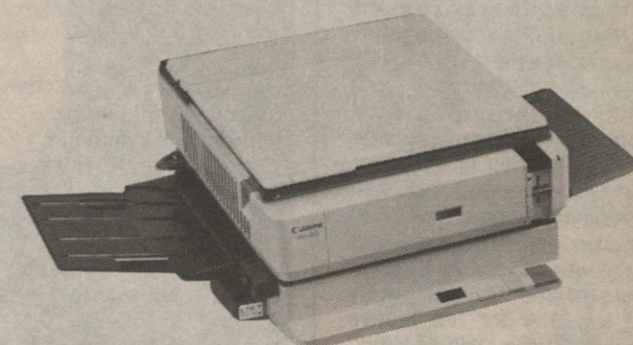
Wedman will join other forwards Darren Daye, Fred Roberts, and rookies Reggie Lewis and Brad Lohaus in competition for playing time at the forward position. He worked out in Boston under the supervision of Dr. Dan Dyrac until August 1 and then resumed working out in Kansas City before a planned return to the Hub in late September. Training Camp is scheduled to open October 9th.

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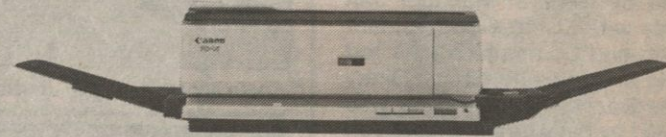
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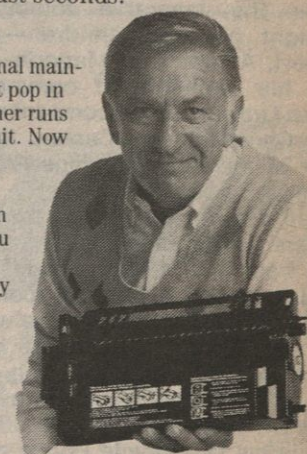
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1987 Celtics Cruise An Unqualified Great Time Celtics Capture Bermuda

The first Boston Celtics cruise, after the 1985 season, provided a great week of fun for the Celtics and fans aboard. The second, last summer, was even better.

But this time they really got it right. On Sunday, August 16th, 45 members of the Celtics family and a group of almost 200 fans of the team sailed out of New York harbor past the Statue of Liberty aboard the M/V Atlantic, a ship from the Home Lines. Unlike the previous two cruises, which had disembarked from Miami, Florida for a grand tour of several Caribbean islands, this ship had a single destination: the lush tropical island of Bermuda.

The trip from New York to Bermuda took nearly two days, but the intrepid travelers had no need to search far for activities with which to amuse themselves. On the opening evening, Mary Dutra and Anne Ewart of Four Seasons Travel Service, the official travel agency of the Celtics and the planner and supervisor of the cruise, held a private cocktail party for the group. This comfortable get-together gave the fans who had joined the Celtics their first chance to get close to the players and staff, just a few hours after leaving New York. They would get a number of other such opportunities in the week to come.

The members of the Celtics family who gathered together for the festive week form an impressive "Who's Who" in the organization. The front office was represented by General Manager Jan Volk and his wife Lissa, Vice-President of Marketing and Communications Tod Rosenzweig and his wife Gloria, Director of Sales Duane Johnson, who was accompanied by his wife Sarah and son Kyle, and Equipment Manager Wayne Lebeaux. The entire coaching staff came along; K.C. and Ellen Jones brought their son Christopher, and were joined by Jim and Donna Rodgers and Chris and Kathy Ford. M.L. Carr, the popular former player who still does occasional scouting for the team, and his wife Sylvia were aboard. The team's radio broadcast team, moving this season to WEEI, hosted the various group functions; the venerable Johnny Most brought his four children—James, Robert, Andrea and Marjorie—along, and his stellar color commentator, Glenn Ordway, was accompanied by his wife Christine. Mike Canney, the manager of the Boston Bruins Pro Shop, joined the group as well.

Naturally, though, it was the Celtics players who attracted the most attention from their fellow cruisers. Kevin McHale limped aboard still sporting his cast and ably supported, as always, by his wife Lynn. Danny Ainge brought along his two oldest children, Ashley and Austin. Backcourt mate Dennis Johnson was joined by the other two DJs in his family, wife Donna and son Dwayne. Rick Carlisle was accompanied by his parents, Press and Joan. The entire Sichting family—Jerry, Joni and sons Jared and Jason—made the trip. Conner Henry brought his fiancée, Michele Kouremetis, along. And for newlyweds Darren and Tami Daye—married just two weeks before the cruise—



Kevin McHale: Truth, Justice and the American Way.



Wayne, Tod and Glenn: Better Known as the Bermuda Triangle.

the cruise served as a honeymoon.

The Atlantic itself provided plenty of entertainment for the Celtics cruisers. The 672-by-90-foot ocean liner accommodates over 600 guests in her 240 luxurious cabins. Featuring an Italian crew and Italian cuisine available virtually all day and night, it is a ship totally devoted to the pleasure of the passengers. During the daylight hours, they would find themselves lounging either by the side of one of the ship's two pools (one with a retractable roof) or on the sundeck, or playing ping pong, trapshooting, or using the onboard driving range. A sauna, gym massage room and beauty salon are also available. But it is at night that the Atlantic really comes alive, with its nightly entertainment, sparkling disco, nightclubs, theaters and casino.

Exciting as the trip to Bermuda was, the pace picked up a notch when the Atlantic docked in Hamilton, right on the town's main street, Front Street. The Home Lines is the only cruise line that has obtained the right to tie their ships right up to the dock in Hamilton, giving the passengers the convenience of using the ship as their hotel during their stay on the island and still enabling them to get on and off the boat at will. This allowed the Celtics cruisers to enjoy the wide variety of diversions offered on their island paradise.

Obviously, Bermuda offered a multitude of recreational options for the cruisers. To the surprise of no one, they were equal to the challenge. Danny Ainge, Rick and Press Carlisle and Kevin McHale managed to squeeze in three rounds of golf; a number of others in the group—including K.C. Jones, Jim Rodgers, M.L. Carr and Conner Henry—had the privilege of playing the famous Mid-Ocean course. A group of beach bums, led by the Fords, Sichtings, Ordways and Johnsons, explored several of the island's glorious beaches. Jan Volk, an accomplished photographer whose photos of the trip grace these pages, shot roll after roll of film in pursuit of the perfect cover photo. Everyone found time to explore the many stores and restaurants within walking distance of the dock. And all were struck by the incredible beauty of Bermuda.

After three days of fun on terra firma, the return trip to New York might have loomed as anti-climactic. Such, however, was not the case, as a number of on-board activities brought the cruise to an uproarious, hysterical and almost merciful conclusion. The final group get-togethers were scheduled for the last two days of the trip, and they proved to be memorable.

On Friday night, with visions of Bermuda still in their heads, the group gathered for another photograph, autograph and cocktail party. By this time, all members of the group, Celtics and fans alike, had established the closeness and friendship that inevitably results from sharing good times, and this made the evening a comfortable one.

Two sensational group events ensured that the cruise would be unforgettable. On Saturday afternoon, Glenn Ordway and Johnny Most hosted the on-board Olympics, a massive and well-



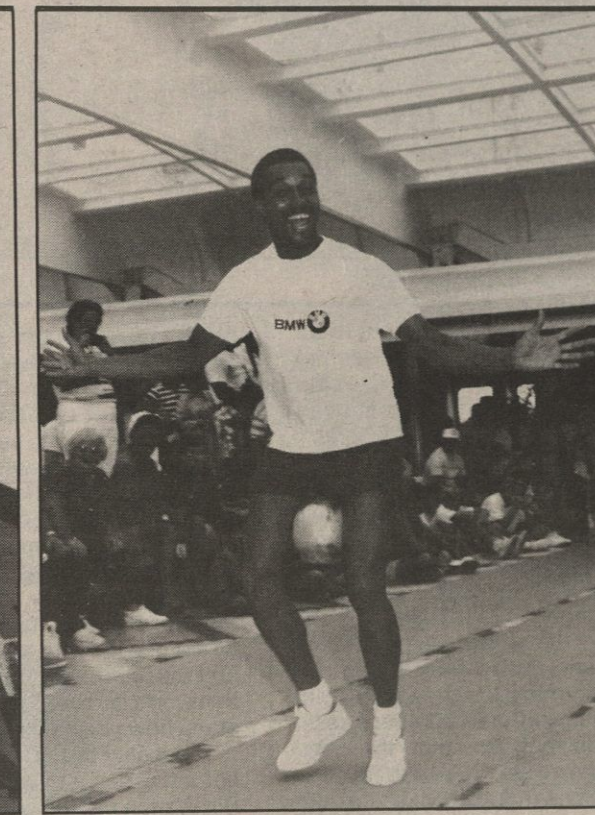
One Happy Group of Celtics.



The Celtics Ensemble.



Kevin & Danny soak up the sun.



D.J. Shows the Old No-Hands Trick.



Party Animals Glen Ordway & Jerry Sichting.

organized 12-team series of relay races. After the opening ceremonies, featuring the surprise appearance of Kevin McHale as the torchbearing Statue of Liberty in a toga and the playing of the Olympic theme by a kazoo band, the races began. Led by their celebrity captains, the 10-person teams competed in two preliminary heats to determine the six teams that would qualify for the finals, and then in the finals themselves. The intense competitive nature of the players and coaches resulted in a close finish, rousing the more than 200 observers to a fever pitch of excitement before Dennis Johnson's team emerged victorious. A touching kazoo rendition of The National Anthem at the awards ceremonies concluded the Olympics.

Saturday night, the final night of the cruise, Cruise Director Robert Landau hosted a night at the races. Several nights previously, a group of Celtics had formed a syndicate to purchase owner-

ship of Party Animal, a handsome wooden palomino who they hoped would lead them to a win in the sixth and final race of the evening. Anticipating this, the entire group of Celtics cruisers, anxious and keyed up for the race, gathered in the Atlantic Lounge for the big event. Glenn Ordway donned his silks as the jockey and Jerry Sichting watched nearby to ensure that Party Animal got a fair shake of the dice which moved the horses along.

Party Animal got a fair shake, but even the fervent urging of his owners and followers couldn't prevent him from finishing a rather pathetic fifth in the six horse race.

Sunday morning the New York skyline loomed vast over the M/V Atlantic as she was towed into the harbor. The cruise was over. Memories of the good times shared and the friendships developed, however, would linger for some time, at least until the 1988 Boston Celtics cruise.



Let the Olympics Begin!



In the peaceful calm of a late summer evening, Susan Walton turned to a dinner companion and spoke of the dream of millions of Celtics fans throughout New England and nationally. "Finally, after so many years, somebody such as Red Auerbach brought Bill Walton and Larry Bird together in Boston."

"It was the ideal combination. And you knew they could not lose."

The mystique of Bill Walton has attracted the interest of basketball experts, writers, activists, musicians, poets. Beginning with the seven-foot center emerging from Helix High in Mesa California to take UCLA to two championships and a series of unprecedented winning streaks during the championship season with the Portland Trail Blazers in the professional league, Walton was The King. This was the player who studied Russell, and with a better offensive array, controlled the outcome of games the way the former Celtic had once done. After Walton's Trail Blazer team won the championship in 1977, he had won three major basketball titles in the seventies. He was twenty-four years old and he was, as Sports Illustrated declared, "The King of the Mountain."

□ □ □

The lure of Walton has always transcended the game. Now, in the eighties, he and his wife Susan have four boys (Adam, Nathan, Luke, and Christopher). They live in the city of San Diego in a spacious Spanish styled house, surrounded by sago palms, eucalyptus trees, tropical plants, banana trees and fig trees. Throughout an entertaining session with this writer there was a distinct feeling of openness, and freedom about the family, embedded in the place where they parents grew up and characterized by the doors, that were always open. Don't be mistaken; stars of Bill Walton's magnitude need to maintain a type of armour. Otherwise a curious public would seek him out constantly. But among friends, Walton and Family extend themselves with complete hospitality. Though one is always wary to draw comparisons between basketball and the "real world," this giving attitude shouldn't be a surprising characteristic of a man who is an emblem of the team game, a giving approach to basketball. Because Walton played within the team with such a beautiful blend of individuality and grace, the aforementioned literati have come around. Activist Jack Scott, Pulitzer Prize winner David Halberstam, The Grateful Dead, Dylan, John Wooden, Dr. Jack Ramsay, and now Red Auerbach. The latter three are the winningest coaches in the history of the collegiate and professional game.

Over Labor Day Weekend, several friends visited the Walton home, including former UCLA and Trail Blazer teammate Greg Lee his wife Lisa and their family, writer John Fitzrandolph, and longtime friend Arthur Heartfelt. The Walton home easily accommodated the visitors. It's a fifteen room house, with at least six bathrooms. It's palatial, yet there's a definite homeiness to a room such as the huge living area. The latter room has a beautiful wood floor, scattered with Indian rugs. The library is stocked with books indicative of the wide-ranging interests of the Waltons, including volumes on history, philosophy, books on construction, music,

At Home with the Bill Walton Family

A Summer of Hope



Bill Walton: Home in the Hot Tub.

cooking, and of course basketball. There's a basketball court adjacent to the house and behind that, an Olympic sized pool, a jacuzzi, and two storage areas, one for surfing equipment and bikes (two of Bill's passions) and the other for a complete set of weights. The Celtic star has had a disastrous past year, in direct contrast to his wonderful championship season in 1986, when he came off the bench and won Sixth Man of the Year honors. He missed most of last season, "the reason we lost" according to Larry Bird. After rallying his forces and returning to the team late in the year, Walton suffered another stress fracture to his foot, this time the right one. He gamely tried to play in The Finals against Los Angeles, but limping badly, was a shadow of his former self. After the season ended, he was operated on, a complex maneuver that had his surgeon make four cuts into his foot and rebuild the structure.

"The difficult factor for Bill," observed Heartfelt, "is that he must learn all over again what his foot feels like to him. He has a new set of sensations, from foot to mind. Bill always was a position player and he's really fighting some severe pain, trying to get back."

"Right now, it would be very difficult for Bill to be around basketball. You see, Bill thinks of himself totally as a basketball player. If he isn't playing, he sees himself as a failure."

So within the dream house, where the lovely Susan Walton (a fine athlete herself) offered a free use of everything in the home from kitchen to changing quarters for the pool, there is an uneasy peace as Bill Walton attempts to come back. "The difficult matter for me to come to grips with," observes Lee, now a successful coach and teacher of

gifted children in the city, "is that people in the NBA have never seen the Bill Walton I played with. Bill was the best player ever, at one time. Now, I've seen him struggle. Oh, he approached the level of excellence with the Blazers and won. But even with the Celtics, he was missing something."

"What amazes me," comments Lisa Lee, "is that people could ever question Bill's desire to play. It's strictly a black-and-white scene. When Bill is playing, he's a god, people amazed at his desire and his heart. When Bill is injured, they think he's a 'malingeringer.' I can't understand how people change so quickly."

The reality of it is that in this "summer before a season without basketball," Bill Walton must look at the future, with the possibility that there isn't a future in the game. Not that he believes that. But he knows, at his age (34) and experience (14 years as an NBA player and several injuries) that anything is possible. Walton's method of coping with this is that he won't discuss the game. Except in parenthetical phrases. He'll talk about basketball, if not asked. He prepares to send two of his sons back to Cambridge for the school year and the casual passerby asks him how he feels. He answers "Fair," and takes a deep breath. Actually, his foot has been terribly painful. A writer used a different tact, how did Walton's own athletic endeavor fulfill the idealism of the sixties? Was his creativity on the floor a means of inspiring people to greater heights during those times. "I think you played the game and were creative within the game. The game was beautiful when the team played together, clicking on all five cylinders. A harmony did exist that may have appeared effortless and 'beautiful.' But I'll tell you. It was always harder than it looked." But later—"I

don't really want to talk about basketball."

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Later, as the sun set in the South Pacific, Walton took his children and the Lees' daughter out on his Boston Whaler motor boat. The kids wanted the father to test the chopping sea, and as the sun slipped down below the eye line where the ocean joined the sky, Walton, dressed in a light rain parka and jam shorts, complied. It was only the fourth time he had been on the boat during this long summer. He took to the water with controlled fury, the bottom of the craft bouncing hard as the waves rolled back and forth, rising in a menacing dark grey. One held on for balance as the boat flew over the tips of the waves. As the speed reached its maximum level, one thought back on the career of the man. His joy at winning again in eighty-six, his years in exile with the Clippers here in San Diego, his high in winning in Portland, only to be betrayed vexedly by his attempts to play on a foot that was broken, but numbed with painkillers the following year. After that latter 1978 ordeal, his life has never been as dreamy as that wonderful home in downtown San Diego might lead one to believe. Something is missing: the head of the household can't do *his* thing, and won't before late 1988. That's a long time. The boat soon gratefully heads back to shore. Bill pulls up. "Kids!" he bellows with mock ferocity, "Quiet! (They're laughing with an innocent contact with adventure on the sea) Watch the sunset and then we'll head for home." It becomes very peaceful out there, in the evening.

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"What the problem is," thinks his friend Lisa Lee, "is Bill not only wants to play ball, he wants to be active! This is a guy who constantly moved, always on the go. He doesn't begrudge others, but it killed him to be on crutches and be unable to move around with his friends."

Walton at one time adjusted to the finality that he wouldn't ever play again. Then, in the early eighties, he attended Stanford Law School and, after conquering a speech impediment, also went into sports broadcasting. He was resigned to the fact. But, once he resurrected his career, the man who loves the game had his art back, and he continues to believe he will be out there again. It's this religious commitment to the game that attracts the writers, the poets, the Pulitzer winners, the greats of the game. The player is totally committed to the game. But... The man is now coping with a glimpse of what may lie at the end of the tunnel, a tunnel he hates being inside of. For his own part, Walton couldn't be more grateful to the support of Jan Volk and the Boston Celtics. In this context, the player says, "I appreciate that. But I have to play again." His short term goal: will away the pain of a foot he is trying to make a part of him. The long term goals? Two-fold. To play into his forties and to walk every day without pain in normal life.

The career of Bill Walton is that late summer night. The sun is at the end of the day and barely discernible. But while you're able to see it, the sky is perfect. The sun is at the center, the sky a darkening turquoise, the sea easing up, the children laughing.

Celtics Receive Encouraging News from McHale's Doctor

Back on Track

The Celtics and Kevin McHale received a piece of good news the other day when told that Kevin's rehabilitation was proceeding as expected. According to schedule, the cast on Kevin's injured right foot was removed and the initial healing process was considered successful. This is the first step toward recovery and has been verified by a number of X-rays and even a CAT-scan.

"I'm just happy the cast is off" commented the Celtics star, who ironically was voted to his first All-Star appearance last year. Thought by most experts to be the premier post-up forward in the league, McHale suffered a series of debilitating injuries over the last two months of the season.

The Celtics actually advanced through the playoffs and into the finals with only the skills of a battered starting five in their favor. Kevin's superior offensive abilities were never more valuable, and McHale responded like a true champion. However, in March of '87, Kevin began experiencing a nagging rash of injuries. It started with a wrenched foot and ankle when he came down on Phoenix's forward Larry Nance's foot after a rebound. McHale continued to play on the injury, only resting between the small break between the regular season and the playoffs. A span of time when the Celts were battling Detroit and Atlanta for home court advantage.

It was in the opening playoff game versus Chicago that serious injuries struck. Still, Kevin battled on helping immensely the Celtics inevitable march to the finals and the Los Angeles Lakers. A very hard decision to continue playing and possibly hinder future performance



Kevin McHale: Long, Tedious Summer.

was made and Kevin truly battled with a greater foe than James Worthy, he battled against constant pain and uncertainty. The pain was horrible, particularly in the Milwaukee series where nevertheless McHale was quoted "I made a commitment to my teammates and myself to continue playing and to reach the finals. We set a goal to win the championship, I'll deal with the problem after the season's over."

During the Laker's series, Dr. Thomas Silva felt that if McHale continued playing the injury may have career threatening implications, prompting Larry Bird to urge Kevin to the sidelines. Still Kevin continued not only to play, but to add his immense skills to those of his courageous teammates in battling L.A. throughout the Finals. The hunger to be the first team since 1969 to repeat as champions was that strong and motivating.

So it was that on September 10, Dr. Arnold Scheller removed the cast on Kevin's right leg. It was Dr. Scheller who initially performed the operation, though Kevin's physical therapy and further rehabilitation will be under the care of Dr. Dan Dryac, the team's physical therapist.

In two or three weeks a compression screw inserted in the foot to aid healing will be removed and additional rehabilitation will commence. According to a team spokesman, Kevin may be ready to play by December but at this point it is still early to say.

"It was a tedious summer with the cast on, but now I'm even more anxious to get out there and play my way back to where I was before it happened," said McHale.

Spoken like a true champion.

Kermit Washington: Back in Portland

It's been six seasons since Kermit Washington played in the NBA, but the former Celtic power forward thinks he has the right stuff to resume his career. And he just might do it.

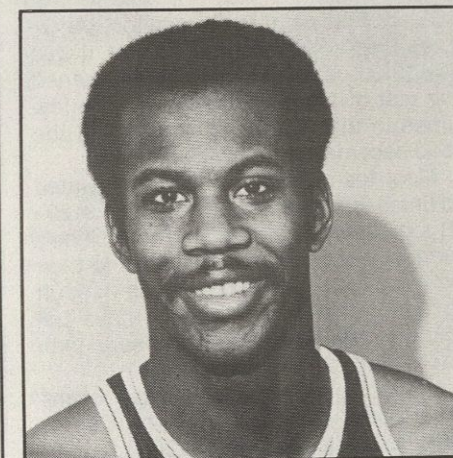
Washington had been an assistant basketball coach at Stanford University the past two years, but he says he wants to rejoin the Portland Trail Blazers. The 35-year-old Washington played 20 games for Portland in the 1981-82 season before injuries forced him to quit. In his prime, Washington, though not a great scoring threat, was regarded as one of the top power forwards in the league.

"If I didn't know me, and I was hearing this about someone else, I'd say 'That guy is a fool,'" Washington said.

Of course, Washington is anything but a fool. He's not fooling about his comeback bid, either. At least the Blazers appear to be taking him rather seriously.

"If we could have a Kermit Washington back, even at half of what he was, for 10 or 15 minutes a game, it would be great," Blazer president Harry Glickman said. "But we don't yet know about him."

Washington averaged 5.0 points and 5.9 rebounds in his final season, respectable totals for someone who averaged just a shade more than 20 minutes of playing time a night. The Blazers, a



Kermit Washington: Back in Portland?

chronically weak team inside, can use all the size and strength underneath they can get.

Washington, who stands 6'8" and weighs some 235 pounds, debuted in the NBA with the Los Angeles Lakers in 1973-74. Washington was suspended by the league during the 1977-78 season following the tragic fight with Houston Rocket Rudy Tomjanovich, then traded to the Boston Celtics.

With the Celtics, Washington averaged 11.8 points and 10.1 rebounds a night. He was one of the few bright spots in a season which saw Boston limp home with a 32-50 record, 23

games out of first place.

The Washington DC native was dealt to the San Diego (now Los Angeles) Clippers the following year. But he lasted just a season in San Diego, as he was shipped to Portland as part of a compensation package for the Clippers signing of current Celtic Bill Walton as a

free-agent.

With Portland, Washington's career really took off. He put in productive seasons, earned an all-star berth and became one of the team's most popular players with fans.

Now he's hoping to bring back some of that old magic.

Celtics Name Ed Lacerte Trainer

The Boston Celtics today named Ed Lacerte as Head Trainer for the team replacing Ray Melchiorre, who resigned on July 27, 1987 after seven years with the Celtics.

In addition to being a certified and a licensed trainer, Lacerte is also a licensed physical therapist and will function in that dual capacity.

A native of Lowell, Massachusetts, Ed received his undergraduate degree in physical therapy from Boston University in 1982, and his master's degree in education in 1987 from the same academic institution.

Lacerte was Head Trainer for the Boston University Hockey and Football teams from 1982 through 1985. For the past two years, he has been in private practice. Ed has worked with the U.S. Olympic Committee at Colorado Springs, Colorado and recently with the U.S. Olympic Festival in North Carolina.

Lacerte is a member of the American Physical Therapy Association, the National Athletic Trainers Association, the National Strength and Conditioning As-



Ed Lacerte: New Celtics Trainer

sociation and the American College of Sports Medicine.

Celtics Pride would like to extend best wishes to Ed, his wife Maureen and son, Devin. And to welcome them to the Celtics Family.





Eddie Gnillooly

Celtics Start on the Road

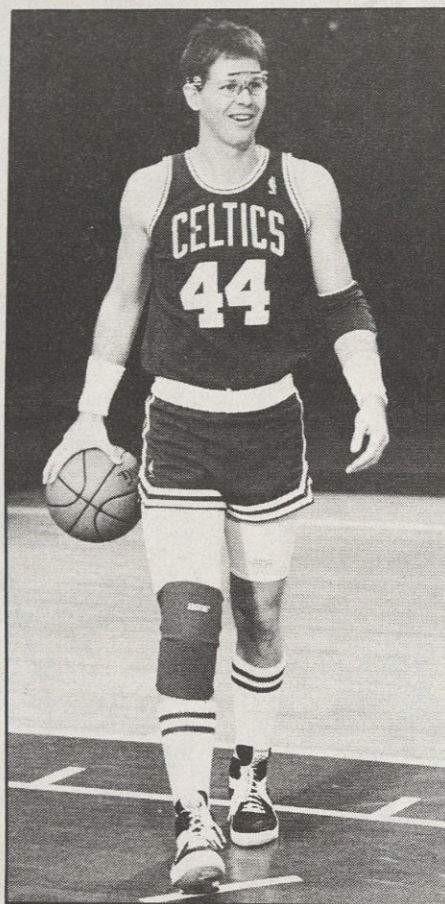
At first glance you'd have to think the NBA was ganging up on the Celtics, scheduling 16 of their first 28 games on the road. The league had to know how "bad" the Celtics were away from the Garden last year and this was the schedule maker's goal in achieving parity.

Not so. There's no devious plot by the NBA scheduling team to place an additional burden on the Celtics in the 1987-88 campaign. The schedule is virtually the same as a year ago. Only the dates and order of the competition has changed. The Celtics launched the

1986-87 season with 16 of their first 28 games on the road.

When the Celtics compiled a 9-7 road mark (10-2 at home) in the first 28 contests no one was all that concerned about the team's road performances because it was felt there were adjustments to be made with the back to back losses of Bill Walton and Scott Wedman.

In addition, Danny Ainge sat out the first eight games. Larry Bird and Fred Roberts each missed a pair of contests and Jerry Sichting was idle for three games and sub-par for several others.



Danny Ainge: Injured Early in '86

Getting through that stretch with a 9-7 mark was a plus. Now the team had Darren Daye with nine games under his belt and showing some positive signs. Then too, there was always the optimism that Walton and Wedman were healing.

So, at that point in the season, the 9-7 road record looked pretty good. It was real good compared to what happened the rest of the way. For one of the few times in the team's history, hitting the road became extremely treacherous.

Most teams would have been elated to finish the season with the Celtics' 20-21 road record but the Green Machine's mark seemed woeful compared to their prowess (39-2) at home. It was difficult to comprehend and the journeys became more and more suspenseful with each trip.

In the 30-years since the start of the Bill Russell era (1956-57), the Celtics have had only eight under-.500 road records—three of them consecutively in the seasons preceding Bird's arrival.

Those were the putrid years when the Celtics were getting their "pay backs" on the road. They finished with 8-33 road marks in both the 1977-78 and 1978-79 seasons. In 1976-77, they were 16-25.

In the two rebuilding years after Russell's retirement, the Celtics also struggled on the road. They were 12-37 in 1969-70 and 18-22 in 1970-71.

Strangely, the Celtics won the NBA title in the other two years with losing road records. They were 12-19 in 1956-57, Russell's rookie year, but still won the division with a 27-4 home mark and a 5-5 record on neutral courts.

Despite a 13-15 road performance in 1958-59, the Celtics won the division as well as the NBA title. They were 26-4 at home and 13-1 on neutral courts.

But who would have ever thought a Bird-led team would suffer indignities on the road. After all, everyone was spoiled by the team's 169-77 road mark in Bird's first six years.

That figures out to a phenomenal 28-13 average for six years. Even with the 21 losses last year, the Bird-era Celtics (seven seasons) have a 27-14 road average.

Bird was extremely outspoken about the Celtics lack of competitiveness away from the parquet floor at the Boston Garden. He intimated some changes would have to be made if the performances didn't improve.

His criticism of the team's road efforts, as well as his own, had little effect in turning things around. The situation became a real thorn as they struggled to an 11-14 mark in the final 25 road games.

It carried into the playoffs, making each home game a "must" win because of the Celtics' uncharacteristic road woes. It was also most influential in the thinking process for the championship series since the Lakers had the home court advantage.

The 21 road losses, which Bird felt was totally embarrassing, were instrumental in his decision to lift weights in preparation for the upcoming season. Concerned about injuries and stamina as he grows older, Bird has worked hard to strengthen himself. He's also taken off some weight.

If the Celtics get off slow on the road, the drama could build into another problem for the team, creating unnecessary pressure to win away from home.

And, it's not going to be an easy task to overcome, especially if Kevin McHale is idle for the first six-to-eight weeks of the season as has been indicated.

After opening at home against Milwaukee November 6, the Celtics have a pair on the road against Washington and New York. The other road games through January 4 are against Indiana, Cleveland, Philadelphia, New Jersey, Milwaukee, Atlanta, Detroit, Washington, Philadelphia, LA Clippers, Sacramento, Seattle, Golden State, and Utah.

Included in the first 28 games are three back-to-back situations. After the home opener against Milwaukee, the Celtics face the Washington Bullets in Landover, Md. the next night.

Then Friday, November 20, the Celtics go against the Sixers in the Spectrum and follow that Saturday night against the New Jersey Nets at the Meadowlands.

The day after Christmas, they match up against the Clippers in Los Angeles and then face the Kings in Sacramento on Sunday, December 27.

If they duplicate last year's 9-7 road start, a lot of people would be more than satisfied. But the key is maintaining that pace throughout the season. If they do, they'd finish with a respectable 23-18 road record.

Knowing Bird, he'll be striving for 14 or fewer road losses. Prior to last season, the Bird-era teams never lost more than 13 road games in a season.

By Tony Cooper

It looked like Nick Vanos' NBA career was finally starting to come together. A first-round draftee of the Phoenix Suns two years ago, Vanos was viewed as a project and didn't see much playing time. But a late-season surge impressed Suns management enough that Vanos was virtually a lock on the starting center post for this year.

Things were going well for Vanos off the court as well, as he had a solid relationship with his girlfriend of six months, Carolyn Deangelo.

"I never saw the guy more positive," said Santa Clara University (Vanos' alma mater) sports information director Mike McNulty. "I think he smelled the roses."

Sadly, we'll never find out how far Vanos would have gone in the NBA and life in general. He and Deangelo were among 154 people killed in a tragic plane crash in Romulus Michigan in August. Vanos and Deangelo were returning to Phoenix after visiting her parents in Detroit.

"He was happy, real happy," said Scott Lamson, a college teammate of Vanos. "I think she did a lot of good things for him. The last time I saw him was in June. He is real soft-spoken, but you could see the change in him—in his body (from weight lifting) and attitude."

"He knew he could start (for the Suns). He was really looking forward to the season. It was a year that could set him up to be in the league for the next 10 years."

Vanos visited the San Francisco Bay Area often after the season and spent much time with his college buddies. He grew up in San Mateo, about a half-hour drive south from San Francisco.

Lamson said the prospect of being an NBA oig-shot didn't change Vanos.

"The only thing that was different about him was that then he had a beat-up Pontiac—now he has a new BMW. Everything else was the same: his clothes, his attitude." Obviously, Vanos' death was quite a blow to the entire Phoenix organization, which has been beset by misfortune over the past few months.

"I'm in shock, disbelief," new Suns coach John Wetzel said.

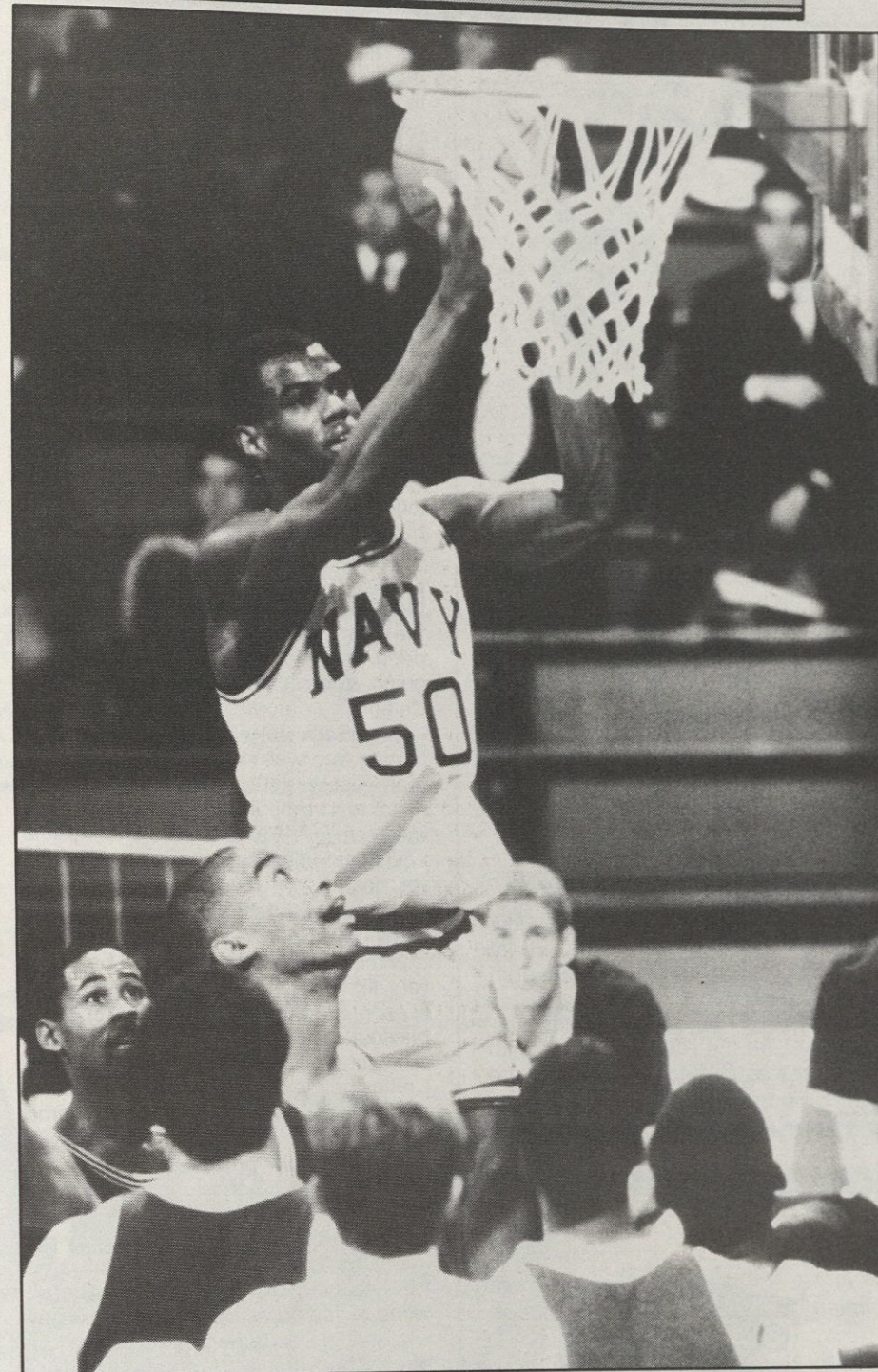
Vanos, who died at 24, played just 11 games due to knee surgery in his rookie year of 1985-86. During February of last year, a Suns fan named Jerry Goldsmith unveiled a "Let Nick Play" t-shirt, which led to a Nick Vanos Fan Club. A portion of the club's membership fee went to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Vanos received his wish when Dick Van Arsdale took over as Suns coach late in the season. He put Vanos in the starting lineup for the final 15 games of the year. The Suns won 12 times.

"I remember (a Suns forward) on a radio show after they played the Warriors late last season," Santa Clara assistant coach Dick Davey said. "They asked why the Suns were playing so much better, and he said, 'I really think it was one guy, Nick Vanos.'"

The Suns had so much faith in Vanos they traded center William Bedford, last year's top pick, to the Detroit Pistons. Vanos was all set to attend Pete Newell's Big Man Camp to further hone his skills.

Supreme Court



David Robinson: USA Wunderkind.

"Nick felt good about himself, he believed in himself," Wetzel said. "He exhibited a lot of things we didn't see earlier. He had gotten to where he held his head high."

Said Lamson: "He had to put up with a lot of BS from the fans and media. People always said he didn't care, but that was just the way he looked. He'd go to war for you. He was a strong person. He got that from his parents."

EPILOGUE: Vanos, at least in a small way, figured in this reporter's life. When I got a job with a Southern California newspaper in Vanos' senior college season, the first article I ever wrote for the paper was on him. My deepest condolences to the Vanos family and the Suns organization.

NBA? NBA? The United States' gold-medal loss to Brazil in the Pan American Games marked the third straight time the Yanks were beaten for a title. The US had been dumped by Yugoslavia in the

Twenty-nine year old Oscar Schmidt had 46 points in the deciding game. Thirty-year-old Marcel Souza threw in 31. Both play in the Italian League.

"They are absolutely best in the world," Souza said. "We just won one game." How would Souza feel if the US used Larry Bird, Magic Johnson and Michael Jordan in the 1991 games?

"I'm 30," Souza said. "It will be a pleasure to watch them play. I hope they do. I'll enjoy watching."

But would the NBAers enjoy protracting their already War and Peace length seasons? Don't bet on it.

THRILLA IN MANILA: Here's a tale that might make one wish for rowdy fans: A group of NBA players, including Golden State Warrior Sleepy Floyd and New Jersey's Buck Williams, found themselves caught in the middle of an attempted military coup in the Philippines.

"It's a pretty crazy thing to walk out on the street and see a tank approaching," Philadelphia 76er center Tim McCormick said, "followed by machine gunners and trucks full of troops."

"It was an incredible experience," NBA referee Joe Crawford said.

The team arrived as part of promotion by Pro Serv. The players were to give clinics in the area.

Adrian Dantey (Detroit), Mark Eaton (Utah), Tom Chambers (Seattle), Jeff Malone (Washington), Dudley Bradley (Milwaukee), Cleveland coach Lenny Wilkens, Sonics coach Bernie Bickelstaff, referee Bennett Salvatore and Laker trainer Gary Vittit were reportedly other members of the entourage.

Philly's Charles Barkley and Atlanta's Dominique Wilkins were supposed to go, but cancelled. Good move, guys.

Don't worry about those players, though. The hotel was secure, the violence didn't last long and they were able to get out of the country in one piece.

DISCIPLINE DEPT: A pair of volunteer basketball coaches at a Southern California high school were so fed up with the boisterous behavior of six kids that they left the youngsters in a van beside a desert highway for two hours.

Coaches R. Lyndon Boop and Mark Kremer of Sunny Hills High in Fullerton (southeast of Los Angeles), were bringing the kids back from a weekend basketball tournament in Palm Springs. When they couldn't take it anymore, Boop and Kremer reportedly hopped on another vehicle that had been following the van from the tournament and left the half-dozen kids on their own. The coaches later returned.

Boop and Kremer were cleared of criminal charges. Authorities figured there was nothing wrong with a little freeway discipline.

"Apparently, these kids were so rowdy and undisciplined that they were interfering with the safe driving of the vehicle," Riverside County Sheriff's Sergeant Ron Dye said. Dye added the students made some obscene gestures at passing motorists.

"While we don't condone leaving the kids on the freeway, we can understand that this could have become an alternative for the coaches involved," Dye said.

No word on how the team did in the tournament...

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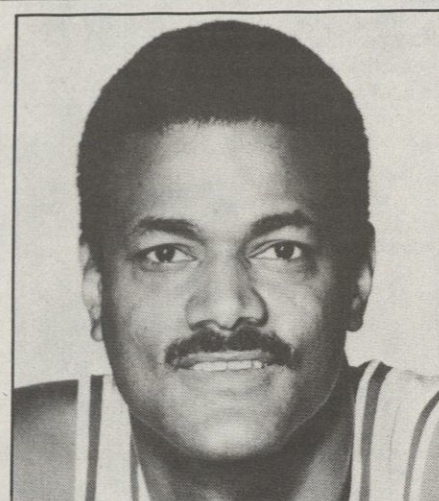
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Celtics Confidential

By Bob Schron

Despite the defeat at the hands of the Los Angeles Lakers in The Finals, the Celtics continued to ride the crest of the wave of popularity in the city of Boston . . . **Steven Riley**, Vice-President of Sales and **Duane Johnson**, Director of Sales, reported that only four season-ticket holders failed to renew their tickets over the past summer . . . **Kevin McHale**, according to a report in The Boston Globe, will know about the status of his foot surgery in mid-September . . . Reports vary about the possibility of McHale's effectiveness . . . According to one insider, McHale's "progress has come along very well all summer." Another man close to the situation claims that he would be "very surprised" if McHale approached his effectiveness again . . . For the record, General Manager **Jan Volz** feels strongly that McHale should be ready to play soon, into the beginning of the season. The cast and pin (that was inserted to enable the fracture in the bone to heal) should be removed in mid-September, and that would allow McHale to begin working out four-five weeks later. GM Volz: "By that timetable, Kevin would miss the first month of the season." . . . **Bill Walton** was out of his cast exceptionally fast, approximately six weeks after his surgery . . . He's walking, but reports pain. He intends on playing again, in time for the start of the 1988-89 season, with a projected healing time of fourteen months. In the same breath, he still is concerned about walking without a limp in everyday life . . . **Larry Bird** was the subject of two extensive articles in both major dailies in Boston . . . Bird is reported to be at his lightest weight (212) since his



Maurice Lucas: Free Agent in Seattle.

sophomore season at Indiana State in Terre Haute . . . Bird has also been working almost daily on weights and has maintained his annual summer running program . . . **Maurice Lucas**, Sonics forward, is a free agent, after a strong leadership-type season with the Seattle ballclub, finalists in the Western Conference . . . According to Walton, Lucas would be an ideal player for the Celtics . . . Walton and Lucas, of course, played together on the 1977 Blazersmania Portland Trail Blazers NBA championship team . . . A strong move has finally been made to have Celtic Voice, **Johnny Most** inducted into the Naismith Hall of Fame. The initiative has come from WLVI-Channel 56 Producer, **Lew Shuman** . . . Most could be nominated for induction into the Hall as early as mid-September and could be voted into the Hall of Fame next year . . . **Red Auerbach**, interviewed by Sport Magazine for its upcoming NBA Preview issue coming out in September, remained absolutely adamant about the referees in Game Four of The Finals. "They (Los Angeles) went to the foul line fourteen times to our one time. Is it such a dramatic mystery that we had a difficult time holding on to our lead?" The Celtics had led by an 85-69 score late in the game but lost in the final minute of a **Magic Johnson** hook shot . . . **Karl Fogel**, Coach of Northeastern University and former coach of Celtics' First-Round draftee, **Reggie Lewis**, appeared on Johnny Most's talk show on the C's cable outlet in Boston, Sportschannel . . . Fogel on Lewis: "If the Celtics are looking for a guy who can come in and have an impact, Reggie can do that. But if he has to sit for awhile, he's also got the perfect temperament to fill a role, too. Reggie is a player who understands the game. He's not a complainer. But deep down, I think Reggie Lewis is going to be a tremendous help to the Celtics." . . . Most compares Lewis to a young **Sam Jones** (A Celtic Hall of Famer, who was named a scout for the team last winter) . . . Sam Jones didn't make road trips in his first season with the team . . . Rules stated that teams could carry eleven players and dress ten for trips.

K.C. Jones has signed on to do a show on WEEI-AM, the team's new station this season. The show will be heard very likely on a daily basis during the season . . . **Scott Wedman** returned to Missouri late in the summer, continuing rehabilitation on his injured foot . . . The Celtics held a luncheon late in the summer to preview a video, entitled, "Home of the Brave" a show of the 1986-87 Celtics season, produced in conjunction with NBA Entertainment with CBS/FOX Video Sports . . . This writer's goodbye to a friend, **Ray Melchiorre**. Ray patiently assisted a fledgling writer as he tried to keep up with the racehorse world of the NBA. He was a pro, a guy who worked extremely hard at his job, often when that work entailed remaining silent when difficult choices had to be made by players on whether they should play or not . . . Best wishes to you Ray . . . Melchiorre is working for former boss in Boston, **Bill Fitch** and the Houston Rockets . . . New Celtics trainer is **Ed Lacerte**, formerly the Head Trainer at Boston University from 1982-1985. According to General Manager **Jan Volz**, a factor in the decision to hire Lacerte was that he is a physical therapist in addition to being a licensed and certified trainer . . .

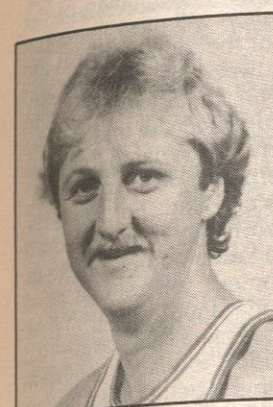
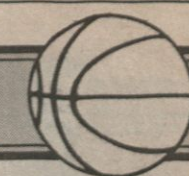
Around the Eastern Conference . . . Atlanta was rumored to be dickering with **Joe Barry Carroll**, who enjoyed his finest pro season at Golden State . . . The Pistons' Assistant Coach **Ron Rothstein** on new backup center **William Bedford**: "I think the expectations of him in Phoenix were more than he could handle mentally. But we can bring him along slowly because we're already a pretty good team." . . . In Milwaukee, new Coach **Del Harris** is expected to try and simplify the Milwaukee offense after the departure of **Don Nelson** . . . The

Bulls will look considerably more formidable this season: **Artis Gilmore** adds veteran strength, and rookies **Horace Grant** (Clemson), **Tony White** (Tennessee) and **Scott Pippen** will be effective reinforcements for **Air Jordan** and the respected **Charles Oakley** . . . The Sixers reportedly were dickering with **Ralph Sampson**, allegedly bringing him into Philadelphia for a workout . . . **Red Auerbach** on the Washington Bullets' decision to draft **Tyrone Bogues** (5-3) on the first round: "I don't understand it. I was very surprised, because they already have **Michael Adams** who plays the same game. Maybe they were trying to sell tickets." . . . People in Washington still think their hardship selection of a year ago, **John Williams** of LSU is a potential superstar . . . Sport Magazine picks the Cavs **John Williams** (Tulane) as their Unsung Player of the Year in their upcoming NBA Preview issue . . . Nets' selection of **Dennis Hopson** from Ohio State in the draft might give New Jersey the best rookie in the Eastern Conference . . . Many had Hopson listed as the best player in the draft behind **David Robinson** (Navy and San Antonio) but Phoenix selected power forward **Armon Gilliam** instead.

Bill Walton on Golden State coach **George Karl** . . . "He did a great job with that team and I was particularly impressed with the job he did with **Joe Barry Carroll**. But to me, give a coach some solid players and you'll have yourself an excellent coach. There's so much said about the ability to coach talent. Well, give me talent. I bet the team then does very well." . . . Walton is one who claims that any trade rumors circulating about **Danny Ainge** are hopelessly false . . . The Celtics had the highest percentage of assisted field goals last season . . . **Scott Wedman** and **Bill Walton** were communicating via telephone a few weeks back . . . **Wedman** returned to Kansas City from Boston on August 1 before an anticipated return to Hub in late September . . . **K.C. Jones** and his family returned to their New Hampshire summer home last week for a brief vacation . . . The Celtics offices were closed unexpectedly the Friday before Labor Day when the power was shut off completely in their home building at 150 Causeway Street . . . **M.L. Carr** resumed making appearances for his Stand Tall Against Drugs program in conjunction with The Bank of Boston . . . The annual **Johnny Most** Sound-Alike contest, held in conjunction with Sportschannel, was held in September . . . The prize was two tickets to the Celtics road game in Los Angeles next February . . . Sportschannel was showing reruns of the Celtics home games every Sunday night during the summer . . . **Danny Ainge** and his family were back in Wellesley after a summer of vacation . . . As has been their tradition in recent years, several Celtics began working out informally at Hellenic College in September, including **Danny Ainge**, **Robert Parish**, **Rick Carlisle** and **Conner Henry** . . . The negotiating moratorium is scheduled to be lifted October 2nd and the camps are similarly scheduled to be opened October 9th.



Roundball Spoken Here



Larry Bird

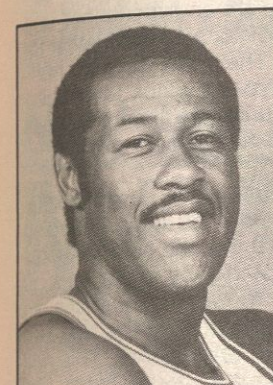
Larry Bird on the Celtics draft choices in the first two rounds, **Reggie Lewis** of Northeastern and **Brad Lohaus** of Iowa: "I really feel we got two very good players in Lewis and Lohaus. I like Reggie as a player, but it's all according to how he comes in. If he comes in and it's 'Yes sir, no sir,' he's going to be all right. If not, he'll have problems."

"I think Lohaus can help our team, too. He can shoot and he's active. He was on the front of the Iowa press. He's got to be helpful. Someone who can move like that has got to be effective."

Stan Kasten, Atlanta Hawks General Manager, admitted he was influenced in his decision to draft Dallas **Comegys**. A rival general manager called Kasten when the Hawks, drafting directly in front of the Celtics, were about to choose: "Hey. You can't let Comegys get to Boston." Kasten wouldn't have let Comegys go: "Comegys had three indifferent years in college, but at that point, his talent level was off the board."



Stan Kasten



M.L. Carr

M.L. Carr discusses former teammate **Danny Ainge**: "Danny Ainge was a great teammate. He came in late in his rookie season and at first he didn't have the supreme confidence he would develop later. He used to fight himself, but in the last two seasons that's gone away. I always thought Danny had the talent potential of a **Pete Maravich**, or farther back than Pete, **Jerry West**."

"I told Danny at first, 'Don't be afraid to shoot the ball.' Maravich and West didn't get to the Hall of Fame by passing."

"Now I tell him something different. Pass it to The Chief (Robert Parish). Don't worry. Chief will pass it back out."

Mike O'Koren, free agent hopeful at the Celtics' Free Agent Camp in early August, on the Celtics' team last year: "I thought the Celtics' bench played pretty well. Any time you have a starting five like they have here, the bench isn't going to play a whole lot, anyway. I don't think those guys did a bad job."

"It would be an honor to play with the Boston Celtics' organization."



Mike O'Koren

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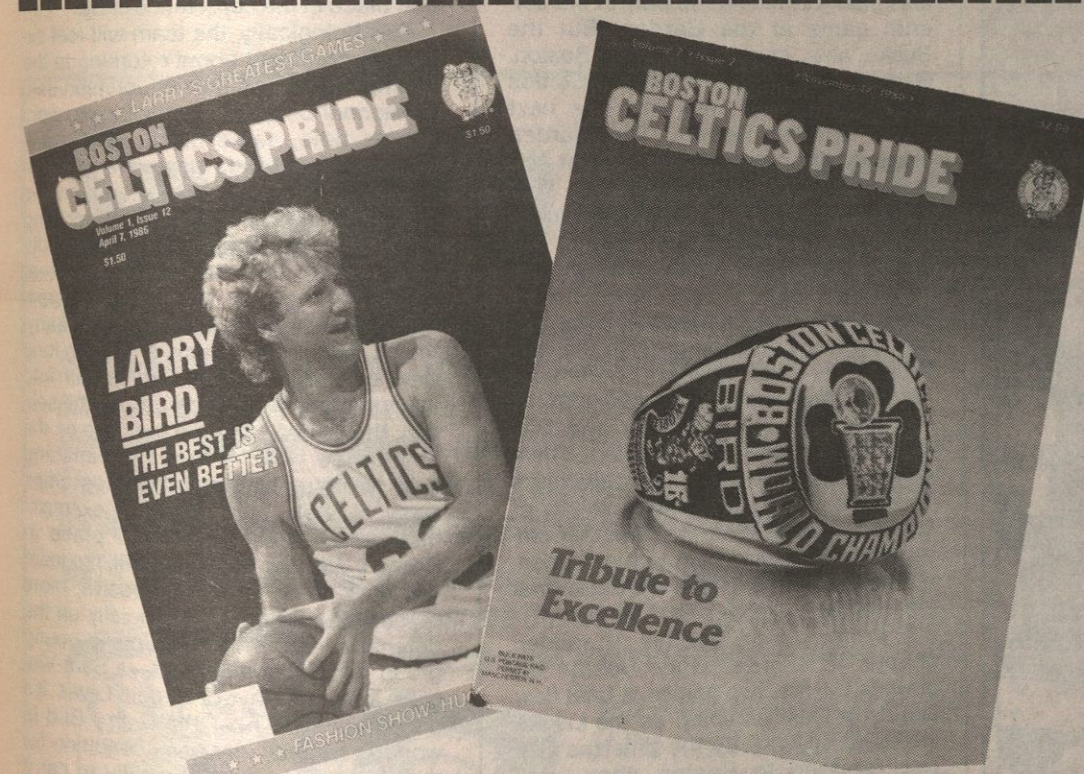
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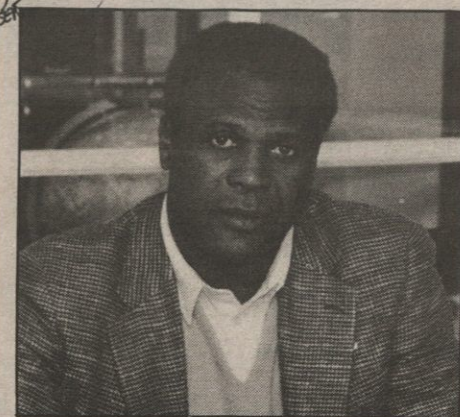
PUBLISHED TWICE MONTHLY DURING THE SEASON, ONCE MONTHLY IN THE OFF-SEASON.



M.L. Carr

Getting Back There

The Celtics' season in 1986-87 was clearly an outstanding one. Injured from the beginning, with the loss of such key players early as Bill Walton and Danny Ainge, they nevertheless dominated the Eastern Conference against such traditional foes as Philadelphia. When they finally brought their team together in the middle of the season, they drew away from the pack. Despite injuries late in the season to such key players as Kevin McHale and Larry Bird, the Celtics still won the Eastern Conference champion-



K.C. Jones: New Challenge Ahead.

ship by defeating the Atlanta Hawks in an emotionally-charged game on the final day of the regular season.

The playoffs proved to be an epic struggle! I honestly believe that people throughout the Boston area (as well as the basketball community) took special inspiration from the endeavors of the team during the playoffs. How did the Celtics continue on against Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls, when Kevin McHale was injured so badly he had to miss a game? I think the Celtics began their serious challenge for the title here, exemplified when Dennis Johnson went diving into the stands to save a loose ball in Game 3 in Chicago. Boston won that game on the road, and I believe that single play told the remainder of the team that we're here for the duration.

But it continued. Against the Milwaukee Bucks in the Eastern semifinal round, Bill Walton and Robert Parish joined McHale on the severely injured list, all out with awful foot injuries. Milwaukee played excellent basketball against Boston, utilizing a running game to complement their superior defense. Yet, despite winning three of the middle four games of the series, the Bucks could not defeat Boston. Milwaukee assumed the role of the aggressor, and led by eight points with less than six minutes to play in the seventh game at the Garden. But the Bucks, alas, could not defeat Boston. Behind a sweeping rally, the Celtics charged into the next into the next round against Detroit. The Garden erupted with joy that day against Milwaukee. As Larry Bird said later, "Behind by eight points against Milwaukee... coming back, is why I play the game." The series against Detroit was similarly tense, if less replete with drama (The Bucks' series had gone into overtime twice and had gone to the wire in six of the seven contests.) There were fights: Parish and Bird fought with my old adversary, Bill Laimbeer and Darren Daye fought Rick Mahorn. There was heroism, when Bird stole Isiah Thomas's pass in the final moments of Game 5. Finally, there was another dramatic seventh game win in the Garden, as the two teams played a classic final six minutes.

The Finals were another, if sadder, chapter in a great story. Boston let down in the first two games, a fatal flaw against a team as sharp as the Lakers were last season. By the time the Celtics returned to Boston, they were backed into a corner, forced really to sweep three games against LA. They could not, and the Lakers won the NBA title back in LA.

A great season. Now the Celtics and Coach K.C. Jones face the issue of getting back there, returning to the level of excellence that has defined this team for the past several years. But the task is different and perhaps harder this season.

Injuries continue to plague the team. McHale will miss the beginning of the season and Walton will miss the entire year. Because of the moratorium in the negotiations between management and the players union, there was a lockout for rookies and unsigned free agents during the team's rookie camp this summer. Red Auerbach, Jan Volk, K.C., Jimmy Rodgers and Chris Ford were denied the opportunity to see draft choices Reggie Lewis and Brad Lohaus play in NBA-context competition as is the norm. As one agent put it, "When the labor dispute is finally resolved—if it is—teams around the league will have to put their teams together fast. Teams won't really be able to experiment with combinations and new players so readily. Camps open in early October and then Pre-Season starts a week later." The advantage for a team like the Celtics is that they are an experienced unit and a team that has played together for several years. They will be less hampered by this type of quick team-building than other units, as Jimmy Rodgers points out. Boston should be able to adjust.

But getting back to the championship parade in 1988 won't be easy. According to the Boston Globe, the schedule consists of 17 back-to-back sequences, 10 three-games-in-four-day sequences, as well as two four-games-in-five and two five-in-seven-day alignments. This will place pressure on a veteran team. The Celtics additionally will play more of their games on the road in the first half of the season. If injuries plague the team early, they may struggle to hold first place in the conference early.

Psychologically, the team will feel extremely confident about returning to the championship. As Dennis Johnson said to Michael Cooper after the Lakers won, "Same time, same place, next year." That is the attitude of a veteran team that has known success and knows what it takes to win. The countervailing winds, however, might bring about a different reality, one that will require great mental strength on the part of a perennial winner. If the team has trouble early, they'll have to maintain a season-long view of things. If the Celtics fall into second place for a good part of the season, they'll need to keep their eye on the long-range goal, without diminishing their team unity (losing games chips away at that). Larry Bird, for example, has never been in second place in Boston. Without Kevin and Bill, the team will have to be more aggressive, more persevering than ever, especially on the defensive end. This is where a young group becomes important—a Sam Vincent, a Darren Daye, a Reggie Lewis. It's encouraging to hear that Larry Bird is working his way into peak condition for the season. He has the ability to carry the team on his back for extended periods of time. He's a genuine great player.

It's all about finding different ways to win every night. You stay in the race on a daily basis, and when the horses return, such as Kevin McHale, the team has sustained a consistent level of play throughout the season. Then they'll be poised to be the team when the season is finally decided and a champion crowned.



Thanks for the Memories

Thanks to Danny

In early October 1986 I fractured several ribs in an auto accident. After spending a week in the hospital and several more weeks at home recuperating, I was forced to miss the Celtic pre-season game at the Hartford Civic Center vs. the Houston Rockets. I was determined to make it to the second game in Hartford on December 2nd against Washington.

The people at the Civic Center were kind enough to let me ride the elevator down and enter at the floor level.

A half dozen Celtic players were out on the floor for the early shoot around warmups. My son got the attention of my personal favorite, Danny Ainge and he was nice enough to come over and say "hi" and shake hands with a 75 year old gal on a cane. Thank you Danny. You are as nice as I always imagined you would be.

Irene Roche

Nashville Fans

My brother, father, and I have been Celtics fans all our lives, as my dad grew up in Boston. We live in Nashville, Tennessee and the closest place we can go to see the Celtics is in Atlanta, Georgia. (We were there last year when Boston won their fifth regular season game against Atlanta, the Hawks.)

But the trip to Atlanta this year would be special. We found out what flight the

Celtics were arriving on and waited at the airport. The plane finally came in, the door opened, and the first players through were D.J., Sam Vincent, and Andre Turner. They instantly headed for the subway and I only had a chance to say, "Hi," then Greg Kite, Danny Ainge, and K.C. came through. Then Bird. But I still had to wait for someone. Then it happened. With long, easy, unhurried strides, holding a copy of Stephen King's *It*, Robert Parish entered my vision. For a moment I could only stare. He ducked his head under the doorway and walked out of the waiting area towards the subway, which runs through the airport and I just walked down alongside him to the subway. When we got there I asked Bird for a picture and he said, "Sure, go ahead." I got his autograph and said, "Thanks." What else could I say?

When the subway stopped and opened up, I got my picture taken with Kevin McHale. He was having a great time. Then when he walked into the subway his bag got stuck in the door. My dad grabbed the bag like Conan the Destroyer. He gave the bag to Jimmy Rodgers, who was standing next to Robert Parish. Now was my chance. I asked Parish for an autograph, which he gave willingly.

I got on the subway talking to Rick Carlisle and Chris Ford, but I couldn't help but keep taking glances at Robert.

We got off the subway and followed McHale up the escalator. He was cracking jokes to Chris Ford about how he



Larry and Lawrence

could lose his kid if a subway door closed on his hand.

And then, out of nowhere Bob Cousy was above us on the escalator. My dad turned around and asked if he could take a picture of him. He said yes. Then we talked to Greg Kite, Johnny Most,

and McHale again.

The airport had one of Kevin's bags in the wrong place. Then I noticed Parish walking up behind us. I followed him out of the airport. Well, I got his autograph.

On the way out my dad had his picture taken with Kevin. It was one of the best days of my life. Driving back to the hotel, we followed a limo which we thought contained Dennis Johnson somewhere within its plus interior.

I was hoping Bill Walton would be there but he wasn't because of his ankle.

We went to the game and lost by one measly point. But who cares? The day at the airport more than made up for it.

Now, I'm waiting until Christmas when I can go up to Boston for a vacation. My dad is a school teacher so we can take our trip at the same time and we hope somehow we can get tickets to a game while we are there. We haven't been that lucky yet; our relatives in Waltham and Cambridge say you have to inherit them! But it would be a dream come true.

We had a great time in Atlanta, as I've said. But it isn't just autographs and pictures. What really matters is just getting to talk to the guys and seeing what they're really like. I'm very thankful for getting to meet them, and I hope many other people get the same opportunity.

If I do get to Boston Garden there's no telling what my friend, the leprechaun, and I might think up to do.

Thanks guys. Celtic pride. That's what it's all about.

Lawrence E. McKenna, Jr.

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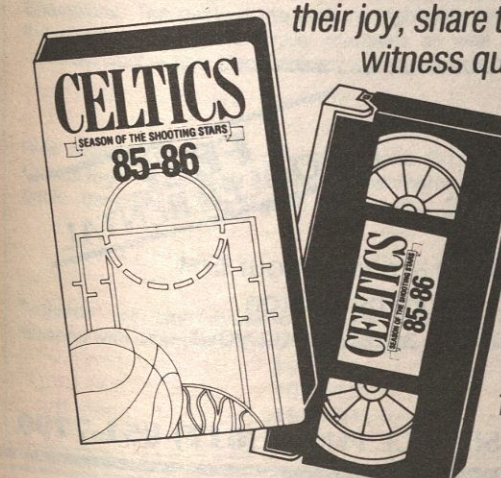
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BOSTON CELTICS PRIDE

Former Celtic player M.L. Carr vividly remembers the day his son Michael came home from school with some exciting news.

"He said, 'Hey dad, guess what? Brett Orr (Bobby's son) is in our class,'" Carr said. "It was a big deal to him."

Of course, that Brett is Bobby's son is what made it a big deal. Had the same kid's dad been a cab driver in Worcester, young Michael wouldn't have cared less.

This is the power that professional athletes—and even collegiate ones, to some degree—have on kids. Nearly every kid who's ever been on a baseball field or basketball court has tried to emulate the moves of his (or her) favorite athlete.

Youngsters look up to athletes as nothing less than deities. These players have a large influence on a whole generation of boys and girls, a fact which is often lost on athletes. Just take a look at the sports pages, which often resemble a police blotter or some cheap gossip magazine. Considering the influence athletes have on kids, this is indeed a sad state of affairs.

"No question, you (athletes) have the responsibility of being a role model," Carr said. "Whether you accept it or not, it's a fact. Young people look up to you. They look up to the position you have. They look at it as a hope—they hope to reach that level."

Most folks never reach that level, which makes the pro athlete even more of an almost superhuman figure. When Carr, who was a veteran of many ABA and NBA seasons, was an active player, he was as good a role model as any. He was involved in numerous community activities and remains an extremely civic-minded person.

"I try not to lose sight of that feeling when I have that responsibility to them," Carr said. "There's more to being a professional athlete than scoring touchdowns, hitting home runs or hitting that game-winning shot. Kids look up to athletes as people who are able to rise to the occasion."

Of course, some athletes rise to the occasion on the field or court, but fall on their faces in their regular lives, succumbing to drug involvement or other negative behavior.

"The problem is the public expects you to make the right decision all the time," Carr said. "You're supposed to be beyond mistakes. You're supposed to be disciplined everywhere. You're no different than anyone else, but when you have a problem, it's magnified."

Indeed, it's not a big deal news item if the guy down the street gets busted for drunk driving or drug possession. But if it's the star running back for some NFL team, that's a whole different ballgame.

Another fact: Fans—especially youngsters—tend to forget those players out there are humans, not machines or robots. And maybe the guy will come to the Arena one day with other things on his mind—maybe he had an argument with his wife, his kid's not doing well in school or his stomach simply hurts—that will divert him from full concentration for the game that day. These are the same everyday annoyances which plague the average working stiff, yet athletes are expected to be impervious to such things.

And Carr was fully aware of that during his playing days.

A Player's Obligation?

"I was trying to be a role model" Carr said. "The greatest motivator in the world is to be an example. As a player, you make an effort to set a good example."

There are those athletes who don't bother making the effort, or feel that it's the parent's responsibility, not theirs, to be role models for the kids. One glaring flaw with that school of thought is these people are fans, and without them players would have to go out and get a

real job. And it's an undeniable fact that athletes play a huge role in shaping kids attitudes. Besides, which would you rather have a kid become, an outstanding citizen like an Alex English or Julius Erving or a guy perpetually in trouble?

Carr was reminded of another episode involving his son

"He was down with me at a Patriots game," Carr said. "He was walking through the parking lot in the rain trying to get autographs. He's been around pro

athletes all his life, but that was big for him. He's not unlike any other kids. He sees the players accomplishments on the field. He's still in awe of it."

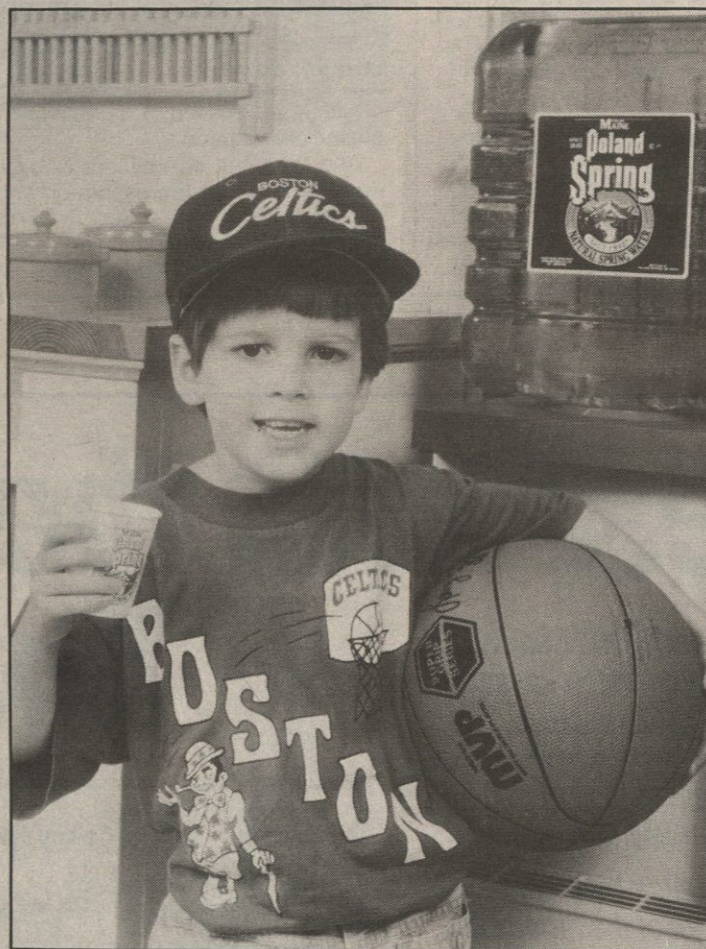
Let it be known that the professional athlete is held in awe by most other members of society.

"By and large, it goes with the territory," Carr said. "Some people (athletes) resent that more than others. Though it's a public life, you're fighting or privacy."

Some athletes think, I do my job on the field—that's all I'm paid for and that their responsibility should end there. In essence, that's not the case."

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Poland Spring, the salt free, unprocessed, natural spring water straight from Maine, is now available for home, (or office) delivery. With a Poland Spring water cooler in your home, what you'll get in your next glass of water, is exactly what the Celtics get, spring water pure, and simple, with no unwanted little extras.

Our fashionable coolers hold our revolutionary 6-gallon stackable jug. It's space saving shape, constructed of unbreakable plastic, offers you an extra gallon of water for the same price as the competitors 5-gallon bottles.

When it comes to a refreshing, healthy drink, the Celtic family won't settle for less than #1. Should yours?



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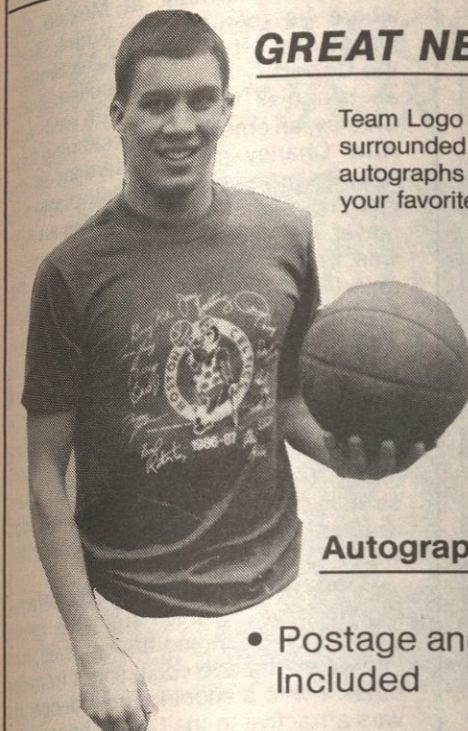
Present this coupon to the driver upon arrival of your first Poland Spring home delivery, or mention the Boston Celtics when placing your phone order, and receive your first month's cooler rental free.

FOR HOME DELIVERY AND FAST SERVICE PHONE (617) 851-7700

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GREAT NEW SHIRT

Team Logo is surrounded by autographs of all your favorite Celtics.

\$17.50

Autograph Shirt

- Postage and Handling Included



Beautifully Made Bath Robes

\$39.00

- One size fits all
- Heavy terrycloth robe
- Team logo
- 88% cotton

Celtics Beach Towel

\$9.90

- Large 5'x3' beach towel
- 100% cotton
- Full size logo & team name

Celtics Wastepaper Baskets

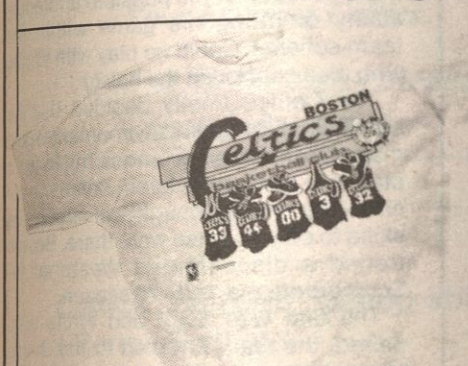
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IN STOCK NOW!!!

- Backboard and rim included
- Basket is heavy gauge metal
- Celtics team logo
- Enjoyment for all



ANOTHER NEW ARRIVAL



Celtics Basketball Club

- Grey Shirt with 2-Color Print
- Adult Sizes Only

\$12.00

(Postage & Handling Included)

CHAMPIONSHIP CERAMIC TANKARDS



A MUST FOR CELTICS FANS

\$16.00

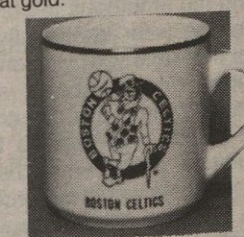
Plus 2.50

Postage and Handling

= \$18.50 Each

These handsome 20 ounce Ceramic Tankards stand 5-3/4" high and feature the Boston Celtics full color logo...complete with appropriate rim lettering: 1985-86 NBA World Champions. The back of the tankard highlights the championship season complete with the players names and jersey numbers as well as all scores of the Celtics-Rockets championship series. Each tankard is richly double banded in 22 karat gold.

Also available is the 12 ounce Ceramic Coffee Mug with the Celtics logo on the front and the player roster and scores on the back...banded in 22 karat gold.



Coffee Mug \$10.00 Each
(Postage and Handling Included)

Tankards are also available for the following championship seasons with all scores of every playoff game on the back:
1973-74
1975-76
1980-81
1983-84

Complete Your Collection of Celtics Caps.



The Official Celtics Cap

- Green Cotton Twill
- Script Celtics Emblem

\$16.00



The Corduroy Cap

- Heavy Green Corduroy
- Script Emblem

\$16.00



The Painters Cap

- Cotton Painters Cap
- Logo & Emblem in Green

\$12.00

MAIL TO: WESTON PRODUCTS
49 LOCUST AVENUE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840
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(Please Print)

SEND ME:

QUANT.	ITEM/DESIGN	ADULT SIZE	UNIT COST	TOTAL

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

Make Check or Money Order to Weston Products

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

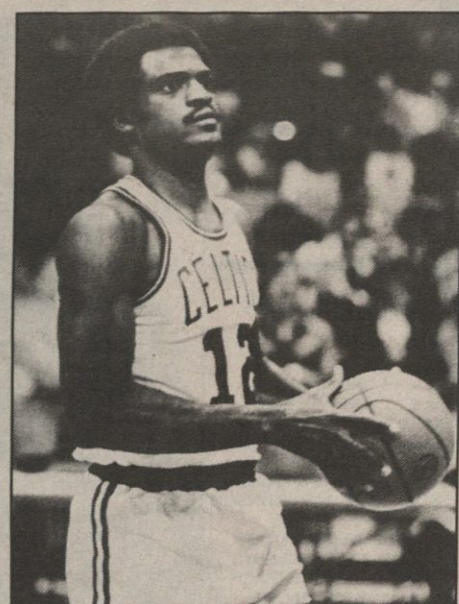
Please Allow 4 to 6 Weeks for Delivery.



Celtics Greats

Filling the Gap

Sidney Wicks was Worth the Chance



Sidney Wicks: Chance Didn't Last.

Wooden reflected once about the player. As a sophomore, Wicks played third forward on a perfect 30-0 national champion, led by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Then after Abdul-Jabbar departed, Wicks took on the mantle of leadership for the Bruins.

Sidney Wicks today is in business in the Los Angeles area. He reportedly is working in real estate and has returned to UCLA in a coaching capacity under another former Bruin, Walt Hazzard. After his professional career ended in 1981, Wicks was away from the game until resurfacing three years ago.

Wick's brilliant collegiate career had him the first choice in the 1971 college draft, by the Portland Trail Blazers. Blessed with tremendous quickness and that aforementioned defensive intensity, Wicks at first seemed to be an ideal professional power forward. He was able to slither by slower, bulkier foes in his early years and ranked twelfth of league leaders in scoring (24.5

ppg) and led his team in rebounds with 11.1 rpg.

Last week, one of Wicks's former fellow Los Angeles players commented on the Trail Blazer's slow demise in the professional game. "The trouble with Sidney was he gradually lost some of his lateral mobility. He needed that, because his strength down low wasn't all that great. Each step he lost was critical, therefore.

Two factors led to Sidney's departure eventually from Portland. One was the arrival of future Celtic, Bill Walton, the player who followed in Wicks's footsteps as the dominant player of the game at UCLA. Walton's presence demanded a team-oriented type of style on the Blazers. Wicks and Blazer Guard, Geoff Petrie, who shared the spotlight before Walton came to Portland, gradually began feuding, and soon someone had to go. In one acrimonious scene, Walton returned to the bench during a timeout, and sat down. The previous play, Walton had rolled to the basket on a perfect pick-and-roll play, wide-open, but Petrie had fired up a twenty-five foot jumper, with two men on him. The center returned to the bench, sat and growled at Petrie, "I'll just sit here and watch you play. You don't want any help!" The second reason Wicks departed was the first of a series of problems with his contract. Word soon filtered out of Portland that Wicks could be had in a trade.

Wicks went to the Celtics in the same time frame as Rowe in 1976, partly because Red Auerbach thought the two would be revitalized as pros by playing together and by playing in Boston. Partly, the two were in Boston because the team then was owned by Californian Irv Levin who reportedly was partial to these UCLA greats. But after Wicks enjoyed a strong first season in Boston coming off the bench (15.1 ppg, 10.0 rpg), he was singled out as the cause of the team's failure to even reach the playoffs in 1977-78. His skills began declining, he was too often listless when the time came to compensate for his vacated pure talent. When John Y. Brown and Irv Levin swapped franchises the following season, one of Browns' few popular moments in Boston came, when he announced that Wicks would be shipped to San Diego as part of the deal. Wicks's play wasn't commensurate with his ability, but he wasn't the only one to play indifferently his final Celtics season. He was unfairly treated here; late in the season he said, "All you have to do is play .500 ball to make the playoffs." He shrugged his shoulders. He alienated his boss, Auerbach, who built the team on a completely different ethos.

Recently, Wicks let it be known through informal channels that he would gladly assist UCLA Coach Hazzard with the forwards and centers if the latter wanted him to do so. According to a UCLA spokesman, "Coach Hazzard jumped at the opportunity. Who else knew the post moves of the collegiate post game, better than Sidney Wicks? Who else knew post defense better than Sidney? He's just been great here."

Celtics Pride Reader Profile

As we here at Celtics Pride end our second year of publishing, we'd like to ask our readers a few questions regarding our publication and our reader's characteristics. Kindly take a moment to fill out the following questionnaire so that we can learn more about you and your interests.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Are you: ☐ Male ☐ Female
- Are you: ☐ Married ☐ Single
- Your age is: ☐ Under 18 ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-29 ☐ 30-34 ☐ 35-39 ☐ 40-44 ☐ 45-49 ☐ 50-54 ☐ 55-59 ☐ 60-64 ☐ 65 or Over
- Your Employment Status is: ☐ Fulltime ☐ Part Time
- What is your job called? _____
- Does the job have a title? _____
- Your annual pre-tax income is: ☐ Less than \$10,000 ☐ \$10,000-14,999 ☐ 15,000-19,999 ☐ 20,000-24,999 ☐ 25,000-34,999 ☐ 35,000-39,999 ☐ 40,000-44,999 ☐ 45,000-49,999 ☐ 50,000 or more
- What is your highest level of education? ☐ H.S. Graduate ☐ Some College ☐ Professional or Graduate School ☐ College Graduate
- The combined annual income (pre-tax) of all members of your family including yourself is: ☐ Less than \$15,000 ☐ \$15,000-\$19,999 ☐ \$20,000-\$24,999 ☐ \$25,000-\$29,999 ☐ \$30,000-\$34,999 ☐ \$35,000-\$39,999 ☐ \$40,000-\$44,999 ☐ \$45,000-\$49,999 ☐ \$50,000-\$74,999 ☐ \$75,000 and over
- Does your household have: ☐ 1 Resident ☐ 2 Residents ☐ 3 or more Residents
- Are you a: ☐ Homeowner ☐ Renter ☐ Student Housing
- Do you travel very often? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- If so, what airline do you prefer? _____
- When travelling what hotels do you prefer? _____

SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION

- How long have you subscribed to Celtics Pride? ☐ Less than 3 mos. ☐ 3-6 mos. ☐ 6-8 mos. ☐ 8-12 mos.
- Do you plan on renewing your subscription? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- If not, briefly explain why _____
- How much of Celtics Pride do you read? ☐ All ☐ 1/4 to 1/2 ☐ 1/2 to 3/4 ☐ Less than 1/4
- Other than yourself, how many people read your issue of Celtics Pride? ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 or more
- How long do you save your issue of Celtics Pride? ☐ Less than 1 week ☐ 1-3 weeks ☐ Indefinitely

7. Please indicate your opinion of the following articles:

FEATURES	VERY INTERESTING	FAIRLY INTERESTING	NO INTEREST
Ask Red	☐	☐	☐
K.C.'s Corner	☐	☐	☐
Celtics Confidential	☐	☐	☐
Interview	☐	☐	☐
Celtics Greats	☐	☐	☐
Celtics Classics	☐	☐	☐
Roundball Spoken Here	☐	☐	☐
Celtics Perspective	☐	☐	☐
WRITERS			
M.L. Carr	☐	☐	☐
Glenn Ordway	☐	☐	☐
Ed Gillooly	☐	☐	☐
Bob Schron	☐	☐	☐
Tony Cooper	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

8. Is there any additional coverage of either the NBA or Celtics you would like to see added? _____

9. Who would you like to see interviewed in upcoming issues? _____

10. What features would you like to see added? _____

11. What features would you like to see excluded from Celtics Pride? _____

12. How did you find out about Celtics Pride? ☐ Magazine (which one) _____ ☐ Friend ☐ T.V. ☐ Other _____

GARDEN ATTENDANCE

- Are you able to attend Celtics games? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- How often do you attend? ☐ Whole season ☐ 1/2 Season ☐ 1/4 Season
- Do you have dinner before the game in Boston? If so where? _____
- Do you frequent many fast food restaurants? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Which ones do you prefer? _____

PASSENGER CARS

- How many cars are currently owned by you and your family? _____
- For each car, please indicate: Make _____ Year _____

BOUGHT: ☐ New ☐ Used ☐ New ☐ Used ☐ New ☐ Used

3. Do you plan to purchase a car in the next year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. If so, will it be a: ☐ Domestic Car ☐ Imported Car ☐ Not Sure

SMOKING/TOBACCO

- Do you smoke or use: ☐ Cigarettes ☐ Cigarillos ☐ None

☐ Pipe Tobacco ☐ Chewing Tobacco

BEVERAGES

- Please check the beverages you order or serve at home:

☐ Domestic Whiskies ☐ Wine/Champagne/Vermouth ☐ Scotch/Canadian/Irish Whiskies

☐ Domestic Beers ☐ Vodka/Rum/Gin/Tequila ☐ Imported Beers

☐ Brandy/Cognac ☐ Bottled Natural or Spring Water ☐ Cordials/Liqueurs

☐ Tonic Water/Club Soda/Ginger Ale ☐ Schnapps

2. If you serve/drink beer do you buy it by the case? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. In an average month, how often do you entertain at home? _____ times

4. What snacks do you serve? ☐ Chips ☐ Pretzels ☐ Hot Foods ☐ Cold Foods ☐ Other _____

MEN'S TOILETRIES

- Which of the following items do you use? ☐ After Shave Lotion ☐ Shaving Cream

☐ Cologne ☐ Hair Grooming Product ☐ Disposable razors

2. Their brand names are: _____

SPORTS PARTICIPATION

- Do you actively participate in any sports? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. If so, which ones? _____

HOME ELECTRONICS

- Do you or a family member own a VCR? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Do you or a family member have pre-recorded tapes have you purchased in the last year? _____

3. Do you tape televised sports events? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Do you own a camera? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. If so, what brand? _____

6. What brand film do you prefer? _____

7. Do you own a home computer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. If so, please list brand and type _____

9. What make VCR and T.V. do you prefer? _____

10. What type(s) of stereo equipment do you own? _____

Thank you for all your help. If you would like to be included in the contest, please fill in your name, address and phone number below.

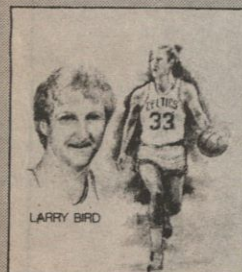
NAME _____ PHONE # () _____

ADDRESS _____

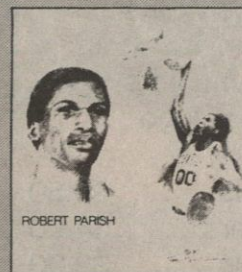
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MAIL TO: READER SURVEY
Weston Communications
49 Locust Avenue
New Canaan, CT 06840

TOM HEINSOHN presents ...



Larry Bird



Robert Parish



Kevin McHale



Danny Ainge



TOM HEINSOHN

LSC Art Productions is pleased to announce the release of a Limited Edition II portfolio containing four (4) lithograph drawings of Celtics 1986 Champion basketball stars Larry Bird, Robert Parish, Kevin McHale and Danny Ainge by former Celtics player/coach Tom Heinsohn. Each lithograph is on 100% Archival Rag Paper and is hand signed and numbered by Tom Heinsohn. A certificate of authenticity will accompany each portfolio and is limited to 2500 sets. Definitely a collectors item.

The portfolio measures 11" x 14" and is available for the affordable price of:

Each Set	\$ 45.00
Mass. sales tax	2.25
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	\$ 49.75

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Sorry, no C.O.D.'s

Part of the proceeds to be donated to "USA for Africa"

send to LSC ART PRODUCTIONS, P.O. Box 858, Randolph, Mass. 02368 (617) 963-3065

Please send me your Limited Edition II Portfolio by Tom Heinsohn of Larry Bird, Robert Parish, Kevin McHale and Danny Ainge.

Print Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

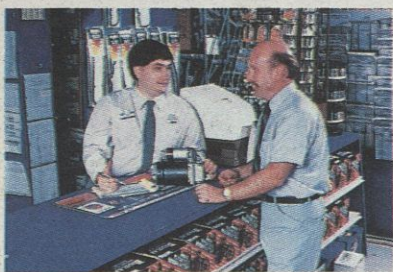
Enclosed please find check or money order for \$45.00 + \$2.50 for handling & postage. Mass. residents please add sales tax (\$2.25) - Sorry, no C.O.D.'s - Allow 2 to 4 weeks for delivery.



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